Jockey Alley Was Part Of City's Early Years

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Sarah "Aunt Sallie" Pierce (wife of Captain James Pierce) who was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1851, once told about a little-known section of this city. She stated that "The alley which you see to the north of my house (she lived at 200 Harding Avenue at the time of the interview) was formerly called "Jockey Alley, for the reason that the Mexican ponies, Texas mustangs, and old nags used to be brought there for sale or trade."

In an old scrapbook of the Society for Organized Charity, I found some mention of this notorious neighborhood. Jockey Alley was described as an alley running north and south between First and Second streets, and Wabash and Cherry streets.

In the early days it consisted of a long row of half-decayed sheds, each with one small window, and a battered door leading into the alley. The roofs leaked, the floors were rotted away, the walls were warped until in many places the hand could be thrust through cracks between the weather beaten boards.. These hovels were a perfect example of abject poverty, despair and helplessness.

Miss Rhoda Welding set about finding better homes for the inmates, and then asked the city to destroy the hovels.

With all its years of mingled hilarity, pathos, tragedy and unsanitary conditions, Jockey Alley was evidently quite a landmark. No more would sharp bargains be struck by grasping, tricky, drunken horse traders from all parts of the underworld in this small but noted thoroughfare in the worst part of the west end.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

In 1910 the oldest tenant of Jockey Alley was Hannah Porter who had lived there 15 years. She was 70 years old at this time, and knew more of the tenants and former tenants than anyone else. She lived in a single room and paid 20 dollars a year rent. Her aged husband lived at the extreme end of the row of hovels where he enjoyed comparative luxury for he drew a pension and was one of the best foragers of the alley.

Hannah never quarreled with her husband, but she said they had nothing in common. She didn't get a penny of his pension although she could have demanded it. As the "Queen" of Jockey Alley, she was always the cleanest and among the best stocked.

Odor of Filth

The prevailing odor (or at least one of them) was the odor of boiling clothes that had been washed in rusty dish pans with foul-smelling soft soap made from lye and rancid grease.

There was a reeking odor of scorched corn, sour food gathered from refuse barrels back of commission houses and from the general filth soaked into the soft worn-out boards.

One tenant papered his room with square pages from a wallpaper sample book with a sort of crazy quilt effect.

In 1903 the TERRE HAUTE EXPRESS printed a story about an inmate of Jockey Alley. This 55-year-old woman, a rag-picker in the city, was living in one of the stables and had come down with smallpox.

In the stable there were six stalls, each being used as a home for one or more persons. The Board of Health wanted to burn the building as it was impossible to effectively fumigate it in its filthy condition.

One city official said: "Jockey Alley has been an eye-sore and a disgrace to the city for a number of years." At that time it was located between Walnut and Ohio streets, south of the jail, and was not really an alley as we think of them today.

In an 1882 newspaper I found mention of another location of which there is very little record. Mary Farmer spoke of "Happy Alley" as being located between Swan and Oak streets. Does anyone know of this location and how it got its name?

In checking more on Jockey Alley I looked up the

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estranged Porters, and found Hannah Porter listed as living in a house at the rear of 109 Cherry street in 1906 Terre Haute City Directory. Her husband James W. Porter was also listed as residing in a house at the rear of 109 Cherry street. If these two were inmates of Jockey Alley in 1906 this would establish its location better than the vague recollections of some of our senior citizens.

Another little known location in 1906 was Pearl street which ran from Ohio street south to Oak, between Water and First street. At that time it had sixteen residents from 113 to 420 including the Terre Haute Sanitary Co.

Riverside Popular

Another popular west end location in 1906 was Riverside Park at the west end of the new $300,000 river bridge. According to their advertisement the "Summer and Winter Garden for Ladies and Gentle-

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men, The Fairbanks of Terre Haute, The Outside Inn, on the Banks of the Wabash, was a first-class cafe and bar where short orders were served day or night and the lunch stand was always open. Anything on the market was served at popular prices and fresh river fish were a speciality." Riverside Park was "Headquarters for boatmen, pearl hunters, shell men, fisherman and pleasure seekers — our wharf is free to you; gasoline for sale by Charles Denning & Son, Mgrs." This was also called Fort Heyden, and pictures show a roller-coaster and other amusement rides there.

Any readers having knowledge of Jockey Alley or Happy Alley or any other interesting old locations in Terre Haute and surrounding area are invited to contact this writer at the T.H. Tribune-Star or her home.

Early Ordinances of Terre Haute

By DOROTHY J. CLARK ST 1-13-57

Frequently the attorneys of this community have occasion to use the complete file of city ordinances found in bound volumes in the Indiana Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library. They search these early city laws and ordinances hoping to find one applicable to a lawsuit now being tried in the courts or other information pertaining, perhaps, to a damage suit.

Dorothy J. Clark.

The growth and progress of Terre Haute is nowhere more apparent than in these old ordinances, many which have been amended or otherwise done away with over the years, of course, but some very much still in force today.

Having a small son of tricycle age, I was amused at the ordinances governing the use of velocipedes found in the year 1871. A velocipede, according to the dictionary, is "an early form of bicycle or tricycle; also, a child's tricycle."

No Bikes On Sidewalks.

Section 1 of the ordinance approved May 25, 1869, states: "Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Terre Haute. That it shall be unlawful for any person to ride upon, or use for locomotion, a velocipede upon any of the sidewalks of the following streets of said city, to-wit: Wabash (or Main) street from 2nd to 10th; Ohio street from 2nd to 9th; 2nd, 5th & 6th streets from Cherry to Ohio incl., excepting the sidewalks on the north side of Cherry; from 3rd to 5th on Walnut: and on 3rd and 4th streets from Cherry to Poplar incl., excepting the sidewalks on the north side of Cherry and the south side of Poplar."

Section 2 stated that: "No person riding a velocipede on any of the sidewalks or street crossings of said city of Terre Haute shall pass a pedestrian, or any person standing upon any sidewalk or crossing, at a speed faster than a walk, and any person riding a velocipede as aforesaid shall at all times give way to all other persons on said sidewalks or crossings."

Subject To Fine.

Section 3: "All persons who shall ride or otherwise use a velocipede on the sidewalks of that portion of the city described in the sections preceeding, shall do so at their own peril and cost, and should such rider or propeller of said velocipede do bodily injury to any person or persons, by running against them, the owner, rider or propeller of said velocipede shall be subject to a fine in any sum no less than $10 nor more than $20." This ordinance was published in the Terre Haute Journal and Wabash Express.

On Sept. 7, 1869 there was an ordinance approved concerning trains which is still very much needed. "That no locomotive engine, railroad passenger car or freight car shall be drawn, propelled or run upon or along any railroad track within said city at a greater rate of speed than five miles per hour. Cars not to stop on any street more than five minutes within the city—if longer than that, the train was to be uncoupled and the street vacated . . . no railroad company shall cause or allow the whistle of any locomotive engine to be sounded within the city, except in making necessary brake signals, and such as may be absolutely necessary to prevent injury to persons . . . the bell of each engine shall be rung continually while running in said city."

As early as Sept. 17, 1855, our city fathers had to take steps to curb gambling, and stated: "that all buildings, sheds, cellars, booths or other places within the corporate limits, used or occupied for the purpose of gaming or in which games of hazard may be played for money, or other articles of property of value, are hereby declared to be public nuisances and owners shall be fined $50 and costs." The types of gambling mentioned were: A.B.C., faro-bank, roulette, equality, billiard table or tables, nine or 10 pin alley, bowling saloon, cards, chuck-er-luck or any other.

Sunpowder Ordinance.

Another interesting ordinance that definitely shows how far our city has progressed was enacted in May, 1870. It provided "that it shall not be lawful for any person to keep on hand, in any store building, shed, etc., within the city—not more than 25 pounds of gunpowder or blasting powder. These were to be kept in tin canisters, and not to be sold or handled after candles, lamps or the gas were lighted after nightfall. No more than two barrels of benzine might be kept on hand; not more than five barrels of coal oil, petroleum or turpentine might be kept on hand; only 25 pounds of guncotton was allowed, and nitroglycerin was absolutely forbidden within the city limits."

The first Common Council had the power to direct the location of tallow chandleries and soap factories, and in March, 1870, it was made unlawful for anyone to locate or erect such enterprises within the city limits or even within two miles of town within first getting permission. It seems these two were considered "noxious" and detrimental to the health and welfare.

The first poll tax of Terre Haute was "not to exceed fifty cents on each made inhabitant, sane and not a pauper, of the age of 21 years and not exceeding 50 years." Dogs were taxed $2 and female dogs $5. You could be fined $3 and costs for feeding any horse, cow, hog or other domestic animal on any street or sidewalk within the city.

On August 4, 1868, it was decided that it was unlawful to have a bonfire within the city. "No persons shall discharge a cannon, swivel, anvil, gun or other firearm within the city limits. No person shall set off or discharge a rocket, Roman-candle, firecracker, squib or other fireworks within the city limits. No person shall throw any fireball, firebrand, or other ignited substances, etc." However, it was decided that the mayor or any two councilmen might authorize the use of the cannon, and four holidays were designated when these ordinances concerning the use of fireworks would not apply. These holidays were the Fourth of July (of course!), Christmas Day, February 22nd (George Washington's birthday) and January 8th (this commemorated the Battle of New Orleans, the last battle of the War of 1812, and its hero, Andrew Jackson, and was known as Jackson Day).

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Terre Haute Is Subject Of Early Travel Writers

T.H. Trib.-Star 1/2/66.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Many, many years ago a little pamphlet entitled "Railroad and Steamboat Sketches Between Philadelphia and Kansas," was printed and distributed to most of the hotels in the area mentioned. In this tiny publication could be found the following notice of our beautiful city of Terre Haute:

"Terre Haute, where we leave the cars and take the TERRE HAUTE & ALTON ROAD, is one among the beautiful towns in the "West." Its ample streets of hard gravel, its fine dwellings, its smooth shaded walks, its great natural advantages of location — being elevated, the view for miles around remind you that you are in the center of a beautiful park not surpassed by any ever seen by our Irving in "merrie" old England. Last but not least, its happy people with their smiling, cheerful, healthy faces all show that it is a place with but few counterparts.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

"The town is situated on the east bank of the Wabash River on an eminence 60 feet above the level of the river. The land in the vicinity is very fertile and the country abounds with rich beds of coal and iron. The export trade is quite large, principally consisting of pork, grain and flour. There are several large slaughtering and pork packing houses in the town.

Perhaps no young city in the Great Valley of the Mississippi commanded such universal admiration as ours at that time. It had no peer, and was as healthy as any point anywhere.

"Hawes & Co.'s Catalogue & Stranger's Guide," published at Buffalo, New York, about that same time had this to say:

"Terre Haute, the county seat of Vigo County, one of the most beautiful and flourishing cities in Indiana, is situated on a high prairie, which overlooks the Wabash River at the point where the Federal Road crosses it. From this point the prairie runs back three miles to a bold bluff where it is skirted by heavy timber lands. North and south for many miles, it is cultivated into delightful farms interspersed with beautiful groves, presenting one of the most picturesque, yet garden-like prospects, anywhere to be found in the west.

"The Terre haute and Richmomd Railroad connects this city with the Atlantic seaboard and the Terre Haute and Alton Railroad brings it in immediate intercourse with all the principal cities in Illinois and the city of St. Louis. The Evansville and Crawfordsville Railroad intersects at this point with other roads in every direction.

The Wabash and Erie Canal affords the inhabitants every facility for the transportation of their heavy merchandise, while the Wabash River, navigable for steamboats six months in the year, carried a great amount of pork, grain, etc., to the Southern markets.

This city is known as one of the leading pork packing plants in the west. It has three banks, the Southern Bank, a branch of the Bank of the State, and the Prairie City Bank. There are a number of Grocery and Dry Goods Houses. Terre Haute is the market point for Eastern Illinois and Western Indiana. The population is now about 11,000 and rapidly increasing."

There are several eras in Terre Haute's history. From 1816 to 1850 were the years of the stagecoach, theflat boat and the canal boat. In 1818 Terre Haute became the county seat of Vigo County, and future progress was assured.

The National Road was opened as far as Terre Haute in 1823, when the city's population was from 50 to 300 people. One source states that in 1825 there were only 200 citizens here.

By 1832 we had grown to 600 people, and the log houses were being built at a great rate. Some were refined by covering over the rough logs with boards and painting them white. Those early residents painted their roofs red!

From 1832 to 1835 there was a very brisk growing period with the population aoaring to 1,214. Then came the financial panic and depression for a short time.

In 1849 the first canal boat arrived here. In 1853 Terre Haute was organized as a city instead of a town. Three years later in 1856 tallow candles and lard oil lamps gave way gas lights. Electric lighting was to come in 1885.

The second era of Terre Haute's history was begun in 1850 when the railroads were first projected and built. During this time some of this city's well-to-do citizens built some of the finest homes to found in the Midwest. Col. R. N. Hudson's residence at Sixth and Oak Sts. (now the Woman's Department Club) was considered to be the first really handsome building on Sixth St.

The style of those early houses was established in 1837 when the first angular, square-cornered structures built. Elisha Havens built his home in 1857 which was considered to be "the finest in the city or state" at that time.

In the Eighties, however, the new generation began to take hold. Lucius Ryce converted the old canal office on Ohio St. into a fine residence. This was later owned by G. W. Bement.

Many boasted about the County Courthouse with its dome rising above all the other buildings with its superior height of 251 feet, 7 inches.

J. O. Jones, first commissioned Terre Haute Postmaster in 1841, had seen the local Post Office expand from a 20-foot square room at Second and Ohio Sts. to the new stone building costing $200,000 and formally opened in April, 1889.

Yes, we will all have to agree that our City of Terre Haute has come a long way in its 150 years of progress. During this Sesquicentennial Year, let's all boost our city, and help it grow as a center of industry, commerce, education, culture, transportation and agriculture.

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Old Records Write History On How T.H. Was Divided

T. H. Trib-Star 1/23/66.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

For a very few days following the sale of lands at Vincennes in September of 1816, Joseph Kitchell was the owner of Terre Haute in the sense that he was the successful bidder for not only the site of the future city but of considerably more land extending up and down the river for many miles and covering all available desirable locations for a city with the single exception of the fractional acreage upon which stood Fort Harrison, built in 1811.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Kitchell knew when he bid for all this land that he did not have the money to pay for it and so we find him disposing of what he had agreed to purchase and pay for, to those five men who became known as the "Proprietors of the Town of Terre Haute," the Bullitt brothers, Cuthbert and Thomas, Jonathan Lindley, Abraham Markle and Hyacinth LaSelle. They appointed Kitchell as their agent at the magnificent salary of two dollars a day and expenses.

In their agreement among themselves the entire property was divided into twelve equal shares. Two shares were to go to the Bullitts, four to Lindley, three to Markle and three to Laselle. Each of these parties proceeded at once to sell parts of their shares.

On the day following the agreement Markle sold three-quarters of his three shares to Eliakim Crosby, Eleazar Aspinwall and Harlow and Trimble. Within a week Lindley sold seven-eighths of his four shares to Joseph Kitchell, David Raymond, Henry Speed, William Hoggatt, Jonathan Lyons, John DePauw and John Owens.

Laselle Split Interest

On Sept. 28, Laselle split his interest into 20 shares and sold them to Truman Blackman, John Goodwin, Joseph Warner, Caleb Crawford, Andrew Himrod, M. and H. Richardville, Michael Brouliette, Pierre Brouliette, Modisett and Shields, John Dunn, Robert Harrison, John Carr, John R. Holloway, Charles Thompson, John Dndrews, Pierre LaPlante and John Long.

For another month these 35 owners were in a way the real proprietors, although there is little doubt that shares changed hands so rapidly that records were not made of the transfers. The real direction was still in the hands of the original five men who were bound to the government for the ultimate payment for the lands.

At the sale of lots held Oct. 30 and 31, many buyers took over ownership through their successful bidding at the auction. In their enthusiasm, many paid more for the lots than the lots were worth.

Liberal credit was given on condition of the buyer entering into agreement to pay half in one year and half in the second year. Bonds with acceptable security were given to the amount of twice the balance due.

Each One Bought One Lot

The names of the purchasers of lots according to how many they bought are as follows: Michael Brouliette, Menaseth Brown, Phineas M. Cooper, Robert Carr, Samuel Colman, William Congleton, John Dickson, Thomas Emerson, Nancy Early, Robert Harrison David Harber, John Hollowell, John Jencks, Isaac Lambert, Jonathan Marney, John G. Pollock, John M. Beebles, Willliam Roads, Henry Richardville, Charles Smith, James Stewart, John Strutton, Samuel Thing, John Trimble, William Walker, Lambert and Dickson all bought one lot each.

Those buying two lots were listed as Cuthbert and Thomas Bullitt, David Carter, Eleazar Carter, James Cunningham, Christopher Harrison, Nathan Kirk, Hyacinth Lasells, Pierre Laplante, McCullough and Clark, William Middleton, Thomas Puckett, Richard B. Brice, Henry R ford, James Sproul, Thomas C. Shields, Charles Thompson, Thomas Turman and William Winter.

Those purchasers of three lots were Mark Barnett, George C. Gwathmey, John Hamilton, John L. McCullough and Abraham Markle.

Those buying four lots were J. B. Borland, John Dunn, Gabriel F. Floyd and Gen. W. Johnston.

John M. Colman bought five lots, Robert Sturgus bought seven, William bought eight and Charles B. Modisett bought 11. In the old sale book containing the accounts of the proprietors and from which the foregoing names were taken, now in the possession of the Hendricks Abstract Company, many odd notations appear regarding the sale of the payments for the lots.

History is written largely from the written records which survive the ravages of time. Among these "raw materials" are letters, public records, business records, old newspapers, diaries, etc. Everyday somewhere in Indiana, something historically precious is destroyed.

A great deal of it goes up in smoke. Mom finally gets Dad to clean up the attic and a box of great-grandmother's letters go into the trash-burner. Don't misunderstand. We are in favor of cleanliness, clean attics included.

We agree that a mass of paper in the attic may be a fire hazard. But, PLEASE, don't destroy valuable documents. Give them to the Vigo County Historical Society to preserve for future generations by microfilming them and filing them in their growing library collection.

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Terre Haute Formerly Belonged to Virginia

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T. H. Tribune-Star 8-27-67.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

If we had been living in what is now known as Terre Haute in 1778, and had received a letter from some eastern friend or relative, it would have been directed as follows: "Weautano Village, Illinois County, Virginia."

At that time what is now Terre Haute belonged to the State of Virginia and was, under an act passed through the General Assembly of the State of Virginia, declared to be Illinois County. The only settlement here at that time was the Weautano Indian village located near where the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge crosses the Wabash River.

One of the main scouts for General Harrison, Joseph Liston, lived in that Indian village for a time. Credited with plowing the first furrow in what is now Vigo County, Liston planted a corn field for Harrison's army before its arrival here to construct Fort Harrison in 1811 on that famous march to the Battle of Tippecanoe.

This first corn field was located where Strawberry Hill is now at South Sixth St. and Seabury Ave. Liston associated with the Indians for many years, sympathizing with their mistreatment at the hands of the white settlers.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

In the spring of 1779, Virginia extended its authority over the northwestern possessions and appointed Colonel Todd governor of Illinois County with headquarters at Kaskaskia. His territorial limit has been classed as "All out-of-doors," as there was no certain limit to the territory over which he had no control.

On Sept. 6, 1780, Congress requested the several states having claims to unappropriated land in the western country to send a release thereof to the United States.

The State of Virginia released her claim to the Northwest Territory on Jan. 2, 1781, reserving 120,000 acres acres n the Falls of the Ohio which had been promised to General George Rogers Clark and the officers and soldiers of his command. This reservation also protected the land titles of the French of Kaskaskia, Vincennes and neighboring villages.

The final act of Virginia, completing the cession of these lands, was not complete until March 1, 1784.

Boundaries Formed

The ordinance passed in 1787 provided "that there shall be formed in said territory no less than three, nor more than four states; the western state to be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, and Wabash Rivers. A direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post. St. Vincent (Vincennes) due north to the territorial line between United States and Canada, and west by said line to the Lake-of-the-Woods, and the Mississippi."

"The middle state, Indiana, shall be bound by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post St. Vincent to the Ohio, by the Ohio, and by a direct line due north from the mouth of the great Miami to the said territorial line. The state shall be bound by the last mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the territorial line."

On May 7, 1880, Congress passed an act for a division of the territory to take effect July 4. By this act all that part of the Northwest Territory lying "to the westward of a line beginning at the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north until it shall intersect the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory to be called the Indiana Territory."

It is in this act that the name "Indiana" was first attached to this part of the United States. There is no record who suggested the name, but there is much evidence that the name "Indiana" was given out of respect for and in memory of the Indians. Meaning "Land of Indians," the name was most appropriate because this area was more densely settled by the Indians than any other part of the United States. The woods and prairies were alive with game, and its many beautiful rivers and streams seem to have attracted from every direction every Indian nation who could crowd upon the territory.

At the time of the appointment of Governor Harrison, the country comprising Vigo County was still in the hands of the Indians, but by the end of 1805, Gov. Harrison had extinguished the Indian title to more than 46,000 square miles of territory, including what is now Vigo County, but still the

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Miami nation and their allies held on to their claims to the Wabash Valley. They wanted the fish in the streams and the abundant game everywhere. This fed their families and all were warm and happy in the winter in the deep woods of the valleys. They would not give up this good land so easily.

On Sept. 30, 1809, Gov. Harson concluded a treaty with the Indians for all the lands south of a line which should run from the corner of the old reservation on White River, from the Ten-O'clock Sun to the south of Pishewaw (Raccoon Creek).

The next month, October, the Weautenos, the heads of the original village of Terre Haute, went to Vincennes and confirmed this cession; soon after the Kickapoos gave their consent. These were the last tribes having any shadow of just claim to the disputed territory. This included what is now Vigo County.

Whites Have Enough

In August, 1810, Tecumseh met General Harrison at Vincennes and again declared he would not allow surveyors to run a line, or any settlement to be made with the whites. He concluded his speech with the fine sarcasm, "The white have sent a spy over all the land north of the Ohio, and the whites do not tend half the land they already have."

The highlands of the Wabash, from which the name Terre Haute was taken, meaning in French "high land," has always been a place noted in the history of this country. The line dividing the French possessions in Canada from the French possessions in New Orleans shows on present-day maps as U. S. Highway 40 or the National Road.

If certain events had not taken place in history, local residents living south of Wabash Ave. would belong to New Orleans, and those living north of Wabash Ave. would be Canadians.

The site of the Weautano village, sometimes called "Rising Sun," and "Old Orchard" was the original Terre Haute as we know it now . . . What was known as Old Terre Haute was a spot some three miles below the present location, but it was soon abandoned for the present more desirable one.

A most momentous year was 1811. The first steam boat in western waters came down the Ohio Rover in 1811. General Harrision marched his army to Fort Harrison in 1811.

There was a wonderful eclipse of the sun in that year, and the greatest earthquake that ever happened in the Western Hemisphere took place in 1811 when New Madrid, Mo. below Cairo, on the Mississippi River was entirely destroyed.

In the years to come many more strange and wonderful events would occur in the Wabash Valley.

Early TH

Dorothy J. Clark

T.H. Trib-Star 8-23-70

Old Boys Reunion Drew Former Residents to City

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

In connection with Vigo County Fair week in August, 1904, it was decided to have the long-planned-for Old Boys' Reunion. Letters were sent out by the planning committee to all those whose whereabouts were known,and enthusiasm ran high and the communication spread by every means.

There was really no connection between the two events, the fair and the reunion, except those wearing official badges as being Old Boys or Old Girls would be admitted to the fair free of charge. Like Topsy, the whole affair "jest growed" and soon the whole countryside turned out to come to Terre Haute and see all the big doings!

It was estimated that one one day alone over 2,000 Old Boys were touring the sights in the city. The arrival of all trains brought more people, and the interurban cars, running on half-hour schedules, brought hundreds of pleasure seekers to town.

The Chicago delegation was the largest and reputed to be the "jolliest." They came on a special train with sleeping accomodations while they stayed here. The Omaha, Los Angeles, Kansas City, St. Louis and San Francisco delegations numbered 10 to 30 each.

Old friends met who had not seen each other in years. Many had not been here since Civil War days, while others had been away only 20 or 30 years. Some of the men reported that it took them a good hour to walk one block downtown because they had to stop so frequently to shake hands and greet old friends.

Dorothy Clark

Everyone was supposed to register at the old "Gazette" building on South Fifth Street and receive their badges and programs, etc. There were band concerts, barbecues, watermelon socials, dances and receptions by fraternal lodges, etc., horse races, parades, speeches, Civil War veteran reunions, special street "illuminations" and decorations, and perfect weather prevailed.

On Wednesday of the big week there was a big parade on Governor's Day. Parade Marshal C. R. Hunter appointed the following aides for the event: Daniel E. Reagin, W. O. Patton, Dr. W. H. Roberts, Will O. Hunter, Hubert Hanna, Frank Ball, Sheldon Anderson, Jack Paddock, Frank Ryan, Max Ehrmann, Colonel Jesse Robertson, A. L. Pfau, Charles Abbott. W. H. Soale, Will Cox, Will Penn, James Soules, Edward Pugh, T. H. Miller, Charles Fleming, Thomas J. Dailey, George W. Daniels, Gus Conzman, Levi Hammerly, J. N. Hickman, H. Stees, Edgar Miller, Herber Royse, T. Gibson Beggs, J. A. Nesbit, Charles Blake, Charles Mewhinney, Charles T. Nehf, Louis Katzenbach, Milton Herz and W. H. Albrecht.

Carriages containing Mayor Steeg, Mayor-Elect Bidaman, City Clerk Buckingham, City Attorney Foley, Superintendent of Police Lyons, Chief of Fire Department Daugherty and members of the City Council, were included in the line of march. This was the longest and finest ever held in Terre Haute.

On Thursday Jos. G. Cannon arrived to help with the speech-making and the dedication of the monument to the unknown dead of Highland Lawn Cemetery.

John D. Bell was chairman of the committee which marked the old points of inter-

Continued on Page 5, Col 1

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Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

est in the city. One hundred and fourteen of them were designated, but of course, there were some omissions. (NOTE: these will be listed in next Sunday's column.)

In 1904 Terre Haute had many new points of interest, and residents were urged to point out the following to their visiting guests. The Polytechnic, the State Normal, the High School and some district schools, and St. Mary's also.

The new churches, notably St. Benedict's, Centenary, First Congregational, First Methodist, were open for inspection. The wholesale and retail stores were not to be missed.

"Tell the old fellows that Hulman & Co.'s great store, the finest wholesale grocery in the west, is on the site of Dave Phillips' "Pig and Whistle" saloon. Take them to the hotels. Practically all of them have been rebuilt or remodeled within the past 15 years. Don't miss the parks or the stock farms."

Mr. Bell urged the Old Boys to "visit the new Fairbanks library, new building. Let them have good views of the Union station and its beautiful park and of the Big Four station. Don't forget the new river bridge now in course of construction."

"By all means take your guests to the factories, glass, iron, paper, brick, enameled ware, car works, etc. They will be interested in the biggest brewery in the state and the biggest distilleries in the world. Take them to the race track where Axtell made his record and many world's records have since been made. Show them the Grand and other places of amusement. Show them our new office buildings and flats now in course of construction."

"Do not forget to show them our new banks and old ones remodeled. The Old Boys will not recognize any of them, so great have been the changes. Show them our hospitals, orphan homes, free dispensary, Social Settlement and other benevolences. These are a few of the new points of interest to show our guests. There are many others that will occur to you.' '

The Old Boys offered a prize for the best poem appropriate to the occasion, and some of the entries were quite good. To the tune of the 'Old Oaken Bucket," were these words:

"There is "Strawberry Hill," where as boys we went sledding.
And the lot where the "Awkwards" and "Blues" played baseball;
The old Walnut Grove where without fear of meddling,
We could gather up nuts and hear mocking birds call!
We remember the spot where we used to go swimming,
And the place where the fishing was always the best;
The logs in the river, where, with no troubles dimming
The pleasures of youth, we oft sat down to rest,
The old canal basin—we knew every place in,
That old canal basin where bull-heads bit best!"

Dorothy J. Clark 8-9-70

Points of Interest Shown During Old Boys Reunion

T. H. TRIB-Star

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

The list of old points of interest was printed in the newspaper for the benefit of those whose responsibility it was to escort the out-of-town visitors around the town and entertain them. These points of interest were marked by John D. Bell's committee for the Old Boys so nothing would be overlooked. After 114 of them were designated, omissions were pointed out by the public, such as the site of the Old Baldwin church at Fifth and Ohio streets where Morris grocery was in 1904.

Old points of interest to the Old Boys were: the Buntin House, 1855, later St. Charles, now Peyton, Third and Walnut.

Groverman's residence, 1843, now the Old Chadwick House, Ohio between Third and Fourth.

Congregational church, 1840, now partly torn down, Sixth and Cherry. Judge Gookins' residence, 1848, now Coates College Brick, Osborne street.

Judge Deming's residence, 1843, southeast corner Sixth and Walnut. J. K. Graff's residence, 1848, now Dr. Jenkins' residence on Ohio street.

Chauncey Rose residence, 1838, now home of Miss Hemingway, northeast corner Seventh and Chestnut streets.

Sibley Town, 1840, all north of old canal. John Burton's residence, 1844, now Filbeck back building.

Site of Early's pork house, northwest carner of Water street, north of Van railrc d. M. Byers residence, 18 southeast corner Fifth and Mulberry.

D. Bell residence, 1844, now residence of Marx Myers. Fourth Brick House, now the front of stable, northeast corner Third and Walnut streets.

Dorothy Clark

House built 1838, southeast corner Fourth and Mulberry. Site of H. and J. Ross' brick yard, 1840, west of Water street, north of Eagle.

Site of Joe Miller's pork house, 1840 to 1846, northwest corner Water and Chestnut, where hominy mill is.

Site of Warren's pork house, about 10 feet sonth Big Four railroad, west side Water street.

Site of Wm. Miller's hog slaughter house, 1843, west of Water street, south of Big Four railroad. Wm. Miller's residence, 1843, brick house, south of Big Four, east side Water street.

Cemetery, 1818, west of Water street, north of hominy mill. Blaize's mill, 1854, southwest Water and Chestnut streets.

J. M. Tolbert's residence, 1844, south of Chestnut, east of Water, T. B. Johns' mill, 1855, northeast corner Water and Mulberry.

Jacob Ryman's residence, 1852, southwest corner First and Mulberry. J. Minich's residence, 1843, brick house northeast corner First and Mulberry.

Welches' Tavern, 1850, northwest corner First and Cherry. Dr. Ball's office and residence, 1840, now Social Settlement, southwest corner First and Cherry. Billy Ramage's residence, 1843, southeast corner First and Cherry.

Eagle and Lion Tavern, 1838, southeast corner First and Main. Clark House, 1852, now wagon yard northwest corner First and Ohio. Market House, 1834, now site of City Hall, northwest corner Fourth and Walnut.

John Burgett's boarding house, 1844, now the Early House. Pavillion Tavern, 1840, now Filbeck House. Show grounds, 1850, block between

Redford House, Lafayette street.

First house on Section 16, 1838, east of Fourth, north of Eighth avenue. First bridge, 1847, foot of Ohio street. Canal bridge, 1857, Main, Ninth and One-half street. Brewery, 1845, northeast corner Cherry and Water. Longdons Ferry, 1838, foot of Main street. Silk Worm House, 1844, northwest corner Sixth and Eagle. Preston Farm House, stone house there yet, Poplar east of Thirteenth. Jewett Farm House, north of Chestnut, still there.

Glick's Brewery, 1854, where Kidder's mill is now. Eversole residence, 1840, the brick south of Walnut on Water street. County Seminary, 1846, now Indiana State Normal. Benny Hayes' home, 1840, now Dr. Wilmot Moore's residence on Eagle street. Pump on Lou Varic's shop, 1852, Stag's stable, 1859, now still there, George Hebb residence on North Fifth.

Old Stage Line yard, now site of Geo. H. Hebb residence, 418-422 North Fifth. Old circus grounds, opposite Terre Haute house. Old boom logs, a swimming hole, foot of Mulberry street. Rebel prison, now Wabash Distillery, bond ware house, on hill southeast corner First and Park streets.

Farrington Grove, between Third, Fourth and Fifth, south of Park. Monkey field, Early Grove, opposite Woodlawn Cemetery. Indian Orchard, on the hill of the Water Works. Camp Vigo, opposite north end of Collett Park. Camp Dick Thompson, north side of Bloomington road south of present Lakeview Park. Imbrey brewery, northwest corner Seventh and Sycamore streets.

Readers who have the time and patience can check out all these locations and see what is still standing. My guess would be the Preston House, Memorial Hall, Sibley School House, Old Blue Brick at Third and Wabash, will be about all that is left in 1970.

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Community Affairs File

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Ts FEB 13 1972

City Directory of 1874 Reveals Much About City

By **DOROTHY J. CLARK** Ts FEB 13 1972

A few weeks ago this column dealt with information from the 1868 City Directory. Today's column concerns Terre Haute some five years later in 1874.

The first and foremost Saloon, newly refitted and refurbished, was run by Peter Staff, formerly of the Coburn Saloon. He served free lunch from nine to twelve noon at the Old John Garb Saloon, No. 9 Main street, corner of Canal.

John Moore, Fashionable Hatter and Gents' Furnisher, 405 Main, opposite the Opera House, sold hats, caps and gloves.

William M. Hawkins & Son were the proprietors of the Terre Haute House, Seventh and Main, "where street cars pass this house to and from the depot every ten minutes."

The old Eagle Iron Works, corner of First and Walnut, manufactured steam engines, saw mill and flour mill machinery, also coal shaft machinery in addition to all types of castings.

Prouty and Jones were the proprietors of the St. Clair House, corner Second and Main, opposite the public square with entrances on Main and Second streets. In November, 1873, they had newly remodeled and refurnished the hotel adding hot and cold baths, the finest billiard and bar room, sample rooms for commercial men (traveling salesmen) and free "buss" to and from all trains. The street cars passed here every fifteen minutes.

Bottle collectors please note: Henry B. Voges was an Ale and Porter Bottler, east side of Fourth south of Ohio Street; Moses Easter, bottler, was on the south side of Ohio west of First Street; C. A. Imberry, bottler, was at the northwest corner of Seventh and Linton streets; Ernest Bleemel's Lager Beer Brewery was at the northeast corner of Ninth and Poplar; and A. Mayer's Lager Beer Brewery was on Poplar Street west of the canal bridge, the south side of Poplar east of Ninth Street.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Septer Patrick and William L. Lapish were house and sign painters doing graining, glazing and kalsomining at their shop on the south side of Main, west of 7th St.

F. B. and E. W. Palmer company had a marble yard near the corner of 3rd and Main. They imported Scotch granite monuments of rose, blue and grey, in addition to Italian marble.

Wagner & Kafader operated the Terre Haute Steam Stone Works on 10th St., near the Terre Haute & Vandalia freight depot.

In 1874 Alexander Thomas was the mayor. The city council chambers were on the north side of Ohio between 3rd and 4th.

Local Schools

William H. Wiley was school superintendent. The high school was on the west side of 6th St. between Eagle and Mulberry, with W. H.

Continued on Page 5, Col. 1.

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

Valentine as principal. Henry Greenawalt was the principal of the First Ward School at the southwest corner of 4th and Mulberry. Anna K. Gordon was principal of the Second Ward School at the southeast corner of 7th and Swan. Albert L. Wyeth was principal of the Third Ward School at the northeast corner of 3rd and Farrington. Maria F. Starr was the principal of Fourth Ward on the east side of 5th, between Canal and Tippecanoe Sts.

On the northeast corner of 12th and Chestnut was the Fifth Ward School with Carrie Melcher as principal. School No. 6 was on the southwest corner of 12th and Ohio with Emma B. Grover, principal. School No. 7 was on the north side of 2nd Ave., between 14th and 15th St., with Miss Rae E. Wilkins, principal. The Colored School was on the southwest corner of 3rd and Oak with E. R. Bagley as principal.

In 1874 Terre Haute also could boast of the State Normal School on the east side of 6th St., between Eagle and Mulberry, St. Boniventure College on the northwest corner of 5th and Walnut, St. Joseph's Female Academy and St. Joseph's Parish School on the southwest corner of 5th and Wilson, and St. Benedict's School on the northeast corner of 9th and Walnut.

The Old Ladies Home was located on the northeast corner of 2nd and Mulberry. Mrs. Mary Venard was the matron.

Architects in 1874 were W. R. Parsons, southwest corner of 6th and Main; Julius Speyer, 187 Main east of 6th; and Vrydagh and Clarke, northeast corner of 6th and Main.

The city of Terre Haute offered five billiard rooms; 15 barbers; 15 blacksmiths; 44 boarding houses; eight cigar makers; one cigar box maker, Peter Best, in the alley south of Vine St., west of 3rd; 13 coopers; A. Herz was the only corset importer; six dentists; 19 dress and cloak makers; 14 druggists, and two dyers and scourers, Henry Claridge and H. F. Reiner.

There were two feed stores; one fish market; 106 grocers; two gunsmiths, B. W. Morgan and J. Anderson; 15 hotels; 31 lawyers; 22 meat markets; eight painters; six photographers; Z. F. Toutz was the only hat and bonnet hoop skirt, horse collar and hub and spoke manufacturer; one plow maker, five printers and 15 restaurants.

"Regular" physicians included Matthias Appleby, J. B. and W. P. Armstrong, Alfred Arnaud, Torantious C. Couie, E. P. Fraser, C. P. Gertmeyer, Wm. W. Johnston, C. E. Kuster, J. E. Kink, J. H. Long, Dr. Mahan, Dr. Stevenson, H. D. Mann, Wm. Mull, B. F. Mullen, James H. Payton, S. C. Preston, W. M. Purcell, J. E. V. Radcliff, Ezra Read, W. H. Roberts, Jasper S. Stone, J. C. Thompson, I. B. Whitaker, Leo J. Willien, Mrs. Angeline L. Wilson, J. P. Worrell and Stephen J. Young.

"Eclectic" doctors were Allen Pence, J. P. Miller and Wilmot Moore. "Homoepathic" doctors were M. Appleby, Dinsmore & Hyde, and Waters & Eller. "Physio-Medical" doctors were Alex. Abernathey and H. J. Treat.

There was still one porkpacker here in 1874, the firm of George & Jenkins, southwest corner of Canal and Water Sts.

There were eight saddle and harness makers; 50 saloons; two sausage makers; one store builder; three undertakers; two upholsterers; Bernard Doherty ran a tannery on the east side of Water south of Walnut; and Mrs. L. M. Thomas, 21 S. 4th, north of Ohio, did stamping and embroidery.

The town was growing so fast that the city directory issued in 1873 by Bailey & Company was behind the times and a second issue was printed and dated 1874.

Dorothy Clark

Jockey Alley Memories Added to Museum Tapes

TS JAN 14 1973

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Several months ago I wrote about Jockey Alley and the people who lived there before slum clearance changed the area so drastically. Letters came in telling more about the infamous Jockey Alley, and the one from Roy S. Gardner, West Terre Haute, was full of his memories of that particular neighborhood.

Gardner remembered the huge tree which stood at the alley between 1st and 2nd streets on Cherry Street in 1910. He was only a boy then and imagined it to be the "spreading chestnut tree" in Longfellow's poem about the blacksmith. He watched the smithy shape horseshoes and fit tires on the smoking rims of the buggy and wagon wheels.

According to Gardner, "a woman named Annie Porter and her husband Steve lived at 1st and Cherry streets. Her daughter Violet lived in the three-story brick on Main Street. The Porter boys traded horses and ran them up and down the road to show them off. One day Tom Porter bought a horse for $90 and sold it the same day for $95, believing that five dollars was not made every day."

There were several men in the Porter family — Tom, Kale, Steve, Homer, Frank, and Joe who lived in Tacoma, Washington. Gardner's father married into the Porter family.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Gardner's letter told of the flourishing "red light district," the Social Settlement on North 1st St. "where the girls learned how to sew," and a little farther to the north a man named Captain Stahl managed the Light House Mission. He was described as "small, but a fluent speaker." Gardner's mother and a woman named Matt Maples used to attend services there.

He remembered the match factory on North 3rd St. where both men and women worked. Cherry Street was paved with wooden blocks, supposed to be more quiet than bricks. The rich people who lived along there did not want the noise.

As a boy, Gardner remembered playing such games as "Blanky, "Lie-Low" and "Blackman" under the gas lights in the 1st St. neighborhood. He noted that "Blackman" is the same game the Russians play now.

"You first choose sides equal like a ball team. Then all of one side hide out individually; all of the other side goes to hunt them. Whoever is found must join in with the finders and help hunt the others. When all have been found, they change sides, etc."

He could remember the first few automobiles in the city, and was in the second grade before he saw one.

"Patrick Sullivan owned a grocery and feed store at the corner building with C. D. Denning and his saloon, a three-story brick. My uncle Charley Purdy was an actor with the Benny Van Hook's Show."

Gardner saw the Wild West shows all around the Courtthouse and the large watering trough on 2nd Street . . . "us kids saw things there they would not allow in a show now, but they were beautiful. They had the money and the finery and golden harness glistened. Charley's father worked for George Dodson who ran a junk store at 2nd and Walnut streets in 1902. George Broadhurst had a coal office in the old Patton house on South Third Street."

Gardner reminisced about the horrible lynching at the river bridge, the train wrecks on the railroad bridge, early cyclones that washed all the water out of the river channel to one side, and the old covered wooden bridge before it was replahed with the present bridge and the temporary bridge at the foot of Ohio Street which the flood waters washed away.

He recalled that his father worked on the paving of the West Terre Haute grade. When Donn Roberts paid off the men in worthless "saript" his father, who could not read, made Roberts pay him off in real money.

Team Lost

Gardner's grandfather, Weuster Evans, lost a team of black horses when they were cutting ice on the river to store it until summer.

He told of the young man, Tom Jeffers, who piloted a steamboat on the Wabash River. When he applied for the job they asked him if he knew where all the stumps and stones were in the channel. He replied in the negative and was told that was a requirement for the job. After thinking it over, Tom told the boat owners that he knew where the stumps and stones were not at! He got the job.

Gardner remembered old Jeff Fink and his brother who ran a lunch stand on Main Street. The boys were continually being run out of the establishment. They had their pictures taken at a photographer's shop in a boat house on the southwest corner of First and Main.

He remembered when Krogers ran a grocery store in Taylorville purchased from Tom and Homer Porter. The 1913 flood just about wiped out the town when the water ran a foot deep at the city dump over the West Terre Haute grade. His family braved the 31-foot swollen river in a john boat to rescue a 100 pound bag of potatoes from their house. The water was three feet deep in the house.

As a boy he remembered the logging boat called the "Old Roy H." and the wide barges pulled by mules on the tow path by 100 foot ropes or cables. The Gardner family lived close to the tow path and the old Indian Orchard Burying Ground. He played marbles and spun tops on the old tow path.

There are many senior citizens in this area, long-time residents, who could tell so much about the early days. The Vigo County Historical Society, 1411 S. 6th St., would like to record some of these memories on tape in their Oral History program. May they hear from you?

Few Clues Prove City Was Incorporated in 1832

By DOROTHY J. CLARK Ts JAN 21 1973

No records exist of a town government prior to 1838. There is nothing to show that there was a borough government between 1816 and 1832 except one isolated record. There were probably no such officers as a borough president because when Henry Clay visited Terre Haute in 1831 and was received with all possible honor, the only officials among the citizens on the reception committee were county officers, none to represent the town.

The only clues to show that there was some town organization, were the actions of the county commissioners turning the court house square over to the citizens to "embellish as they pleased," and the fact that small parts of town lots were sold at public sale to satisfy delinquent town taxes. Only pieces of lots were sold as the delinquencies amounted to only a few dollars at most.

Terre Haute was incorporated as a town by act of the legislature on Jan. 26, 1832. The following March the citizens held a meeting at the court house and divided the town into five wards. A trustee was elected for each: James Warren, James B. McCall, Thomas Houghton, James Ross and Wm. Herrington. These men were the first councilmen of the town of Terre Haute. They in turn elected the first municipal officers: James B. McCall, president; James T. Moffatt, clerk; Charles G. Taylor, assessor; Samuel Crawford, treasurer, and Wm. Mars, constable and collector. This system lasted until 1838 when a charter was secured from the legislature for the election of a mayor and councilmen.

On May 10, 1838 the Board of Trustees held its first meeting. Trustees included: Robert Wallace, Jacob D. Early, James B. Edmunds, Ransom Miller, Theron A. Madison, Russel Ross, Thomas Houghton, Curtis Gilbert, John F. Cruft and Amory Kinney. The last resigned in August and Thomas Desert was elected to fill his unexpired term in the Fifth Ward.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Officers in the Town were Elijah Tillotson, president or mayor of the board of trustees: Charles T. Noble, clerk: Britton M. Harrison, assessor and marshal; Samuel Crawford, treasurer; and John Britton, surveyor.

Elijah Tillotson only served from May 10 to Oct. 18 when Dr. Marcus Hitchcock was elected. He in turn resigned and Britton M. Harrison was elected mayor in June, 1839. On Dec. 3 Charles T. Noble resigned as clerk and W. D. Griswold was elected to fill his unexpired term. Public office was an unpaid, time-consuming, public trust in those early days, not the political plum with fringe benefits it has become in later years.

It was difficult to learn much about the personal lives of the first five city fathers. Judge Elijah Tillotson (1791-1857) was one of the first, if not the first, jeweler here. He came here as early as 1819, helped charter Masonic Lodge No. 19; served as a petit juror in 1823; served as bond coroner in 1826; bought and sold land before 1830; served as first school trustee in 1827;

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Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

was listed in the 1829 census as head of the household of 3 males and 2 females; his daughter, Eliza "Lizzie" Tillotson, was a school teacher; a daughter Nancy married Ruphus Brown in 1832; a son Rodney learned the jeweler's trade and continued the little shop on the west side of First street between Poplar and Ohio streets which had a bow window displaying all sorts of watches.

Charles Thomas Noble was born in Massachusetts in 1801, coming here in 1823. He was one of our first teachers, and taught the first Sunday school class. He married Elizabeth L. Herring and we know of two children: Charles T., Jr. and Mary W. Noble who married Louis Phillip Seeburger. The 1835 census listed his family as 2 males over 10, 3 females over 10, and 2 males under 10.

Noble took the census in 1829 when there were 83 families of 558 inhabitants in the town. In 1835 a bet of $15 on a side was made on the population. One contended that the town had a population of 1.500; the other that it did not. Mr. Noble took the census and found 183 families and a population of 1.200. He won the bet for his labor. He served as collector, recorder, and county clerk for many years.

Britton M. Harrison came here as early as 1818. In 1823 he was a partner in Harrison & Wilson groceries. In 1830 he was a partner with Henry Allen. In 1828 he married Adaline Allen, daughter of the early settler Peter B. Allen. They had three children: George, Porter and Edward.

Harrison's Watch

Harrison's great-granddaughter, Miss Ruth Adamson, gave an interesting relic with a remarkable history to the local museum. It is a gold watch, stem-winding, hunting case, Liberpool make, inscribed with the date 1828 and the name "B. Harrison." Harrison & Son had an establishment on Water Street north of the Big Four Railroad where they made soap and candles. In 1858 Mr. Harrison lost his watch. In 1903 while the bridge builders were sinking the coffer dams for the stone piers of the new Big Four bridge a workman found the gold watch 32 feet below the bottom of the river near the bank. The name inscribed on it proved it to be the watch lost by Mr. Harrison 45 years before. It had been dropped nearer the bank than when found, for as time passed the river encroached and what was land became river, and the gravel and sand swept by the current into eddies below the bend had buried the watch deep under clay, gravel and sand where it was found. The outer hunting case was in good order, though the gold was dull. The enamel of the face had gone, the minute and second hands had disappeared, and a very small hour hand had remained.

Described as a very bustling man he was considered very eccentric, but honest and truthful in business. He served as mayor, justice of the peace, councilman, president of the volunteer firemen's association, and inspector of salt for the county in 1842.

Samuel Crawford was born in 1802 in County Antrim, Ireland. He came to America in 1822 and lived in Louisville, Ky. before coming to Terre Haute. He married Elizabeth Cunningham, daughter of Francis Cunningham, pioneer settler and first postmaster. Samuel and his older brother John ran a successful mercantile business here for many years. He became secretary, then president of the T. H. & R. Railroad from 1852 until his death in 1857. His wife died in 1841. His only survivor was Frank Crawford. Samuel Crawford served as treasurer of the town for nearly 20 years. He was a director of the Terre Haute Drawbridge Co.; on the building committee for the

(over)

Vigo County Seminary and trustee 1847 to 1850; a director of the Branch Bank of the State Bank here in 1834; a councilman; member of a volunteer fire engine company; and map maker for the town in 1831.

John Britton came here in 1817. spent most of his life in Terre Haute and was one of the well-to-do public spirited citizens of the town. When he first came to town from Vincennes he lived with Daniel Barnes in his small log cabin on Section 16 at the edge of the prairie, not far from Woodlawn Cemetery.

In 1818 he was listed as a "tailor" but he surely did not have time to follow his trade. He served as "lister"; petit juror; charter member of Masonic Lodge No. 19; one of ten original members of Central Presbyterian Church in 1828: county surveyor: constable of Harrison township; and many times married.

In 1819 he married Harriet Allen, the same day Curtis Gilbert married her sister Catherine. In 1826 he married Eliza Roach; and in 1830 to Catharine Croy.

As early as 1846 he had established Britton & Company, forwarding and commission merchants, with the warehouse at First and Eagle streets on the canal basin. In the Fifties the "old Britton warehouse" was located on the canal basin and was the landing place and pier for the canal boats.

Known as a magistrate and librarian, he kept the first county library. Described as a rather plain in manner and speech. it was said that at a trial before him, a man by the name of Leatherman jumped up and exlaimed: "So and so swears to a d---d lie." Squire Britton then, in an excited voice said: "John Leatherman, I fine you $5 for swearing. by G-d."

Mr. Britton was very fond of fancy gardening and his brick home built in 1825 at First and Poplar streets was a show place of flowers and landscaping.

These, then, were the five men who were responsible for our town government in 1838—Elijah Tillotson, mayor; Charles T. Noble, clerk; Britton M. Harrison, assessor and marshal; Samuel Crawford, treasurer, and John Britton, surveyor.

In Past Days, Permanence Was the Ideal in Building

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

TS NOV 1 1 1973

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47807

In the past, permanence was the ideal. Whether engaged in handcrafting a pair of boots or in constructing a church, all man's creative and productive energies went toward making a durable and lasting product. Man built to last. He had to. As long as the society around him was relatively unchanging each object had clearly defined functions, and economic logic dictated the policy of permanence. Even if they had to be repaired now and then, the boots that cost $50 and lasted ten years were less expensive than those that cost $10 and lasted only a year.

In 1955 eight percent of new housing starts were apartments. In 1961 this percentage had risen to 24 percent. In 1969 for the first time in the United States more building permits were being issued for apartment construction than for private homes. Apartment living, let's face it, is "in." Young people want "minimum-involvement housing."

The average car owner in America keeps his car 3½ years. He has 20 to 50 different cars in his lifetime. Car rental is the big thing now. In fact, everything can be rented now.

This is decided contrast to what it was like in our city in 1850. According to the TERRE HAUTE JOURNAL the City Hotel was nearly completed on Third street. During the summer a company of six citizens erected on the site of what was formerly known as Dutch Row on the corner of Fourth and Wabash. Union Row was the name given to the new building which fronted on Wabash, 140 feet, three stories high, and contained seven large business rooms on the first floor, with large and dry cellars under each one. Merchants moved in to the new buildings as soon as they were completed. Messrs. Warren & Markle and L. Ryce, Dry Goods dealers; and Ludowici & Hulman, wholesale grocers, were the first tenants. The building had a cast-iron front and was thoroughly fireproof.

The upper floors were finished as offices. The JOURNAL newspaper offices moved into the "third floor of Union Row, corner of Fourth street and the National Road, with the entrance on Fourth street."

DOROTHY J. CLARK

In August, 1851, the TERRE HAUTE JOURNAL again reported that "it is a sight for sore eyes to look about and observe the various improvements in progress among us. The Phoenix Row, extending from Union Row to Market street, has risen from the ashes of 'Lord's corner', and 'Scott's Row,' the largest and finest edifice in town. It is in height three stories with an attic; the lower story is divided into eight store-rooms with iron fronts cast in Terre Haute; which will soon be ready for use, and all of which have been bespoken. In the third story of the building is the most spacious Concert Hall in town. The room is about 37 by 64 feet and about 17 feet from floor to ceiling.

"Almost adjoining this building on Market street, is Mr. Routledge's three-story building of 40 feet front, and finished in handsome style. Nearly opposite is the new two-story brick building erected by J. M. Tolbert and J. Baird, which will soon be occupied as a tobacconist establishment and tin factory.

"The finest business house in town is Bement's new store on the corner of Wabash and First streets. This building is three stories high and 40 feet front by 100 feet in depth, and finished in the handsomest and most substantial manner.

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"At the Depot ground of the railroad, two new buildings have been erected, and the materials are collecting for the erection of the companys' depot, which will be about 400 feet in length when finished."

"John Britton & Co. have erected a spacious warehouse at the Canal Basin, the third warehouse built within the year. But to estimate justly the rapid growth of our town it would be necessary to pass from one extremity to another and note the great number of residences and other buildings, large and small, erecting in every direction."

"Within the past 12 months, nearly 200 houses have been built within the town, and the demand for houses is constantly on the rise. Rents are extremely high, no sooner is it known that a dwelling will be vacated than a score of applicants are ready to take possession. The present is a harvest time for mechanics of every description, and the demand for laborers is greater than the supply."

The conditions of housing and building in 1851 compare with the present times some 122 years later. The new buildings of 1851 lasted well over a century before being razed in the Urban Redevelopment projects. The wrecking firms can testify how well built they were and how well they stood up to the years of all sorts of tenants, businesses, remodeling, etc. Permanence was the ideal of all mechanics worthy of their hire in those bygone days.

What can we expect of modern times when there are paper wedding gowns with full trains out of which the bride can make kitchen curtains! Small children play with Barbie dolls that have a trade-in value when the old one gets worn from changing its expensive little handmade garments that cost the parents an arm and a leg.

To point out this idea of permanence and how it has disappeared from the present day world, I'm reminded of the example of the child in still unfamiliar surroundings in the new neighborhood in which her family has moved. The child was sent to a nearby supermarket, missed it by a block, and came home to report that the market must have been bulldozed because it was not there. This child was so used to impermanence that instead of realizing she might have gone to the wrong location, she chose to believe the market was already torn down!

Terre Haute

City's Expansion to East Began Over 85 Years Ago

Ts JAN 27 1974

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Eighty-five years ago Terre Haute's growing expansion eastward on Wabash Avenue was becoming more and more apparent. Concentrated for so many years around the courthouse square, the growing town moved ever so slowly east on Main street.

One of the last old-time flour mills which flourished in the city, the Wright L. Kidder & Son, was located at 1000 Wabash. Railroad freight cars loaded with grain coming in or flour going out were transferred from one track to another by a movable section of track supported on rails. The car was pushed on to this and moved over to put the car in line with another track. This operation was located on the west side of the mill.

At 1012 Wabash was located William H. Baker, a dealer of flour and feed. In the apartment over his business resided James H. Eaton, a driver for the Terre Haute Street Car Company.

The next building east was occupied by Charles Woelfle, who was an old-fashioned boot and shoemaker. Eden Cullen, a commission merchant, resided at 1016 Wabash. Next door to him was Henry Apmann, a shoemaker. G. Seth Williams had his drug store at 1022 Wabash avenue. This was an exception to the general rule, that a druggist should have his business situated on a corner where his well-lighted windows containing bottles filled with red and green liquid could be seen for a distance of many blocks.

At 1024 Wabash was William McWilliams who had a boot and shoe business.

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At 1100 Wabash, Franis J. Rupp operated a meat market, while upstairs was Debs Hall. Next door to him, Daniel Debs, father of Eugene Victor Debs, had a store where he sold wines and liquors. At 1104 Wabash, Mrs. E. G. Houriet had her business place. She was a jeweler and watchmaker. It was from her husband that Mr. Condit bought the property on Mulberry street which became the Condit home for so many years and is now home of Indiana State University's president on the campus.

William H. Bridenthal, a miller, occupied the building at 1106 Wabash. Mrs. M. A. Kurhirdt, a widow, lived next door. At 1110 Wabash was the residence of Wm. M. Ruffner, a carpenter. The next door east was the business of Stephen Mayer, a saloon and bakery. At 1116 Wabash was the residence of Charles H. Little, a partner in the firm of Fenner & Little. A saloon operated by David Getty was located at 1120 Wabash. William Rehmann, a picture framer, lived at 1122 Wabash. At 1124 lived George O.

Thomas, a laborer. Next door James N. Shepherd had a livery, sale and boarding stable. J. Walter Kelchner, a boot and shoemaker, occupied the next place east.

At 1136 Wabash was the business house of John Miller and James W. Haley, furniture and upholsterers. George Fisher's saloon was next door. Mrs. Anna Heinig, widow of Frederick Heinig, operated a grocery in the same building her husband

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had a bakery and confectionary.

John E. Schnell operated a bakery at 1206 Wabash. Next door was the home of Isaac A. Hughes, a mechanic in the Vandalia shops. At 1212 Wabash was the home of John Long, a stone cutter. Next door east was the home of Charles D. Flaid, superintendent of the Hawkeye Detective Agency. George W. Spoonhoff, a laborer for C. C. Smith, lived next door. The Arcel Bros., Soloman W. Arcel and David Arcel, had their retail confectionary business at 1220 Wabash. At 1222 Mart McKinely, a second hand goods dealer, had his business. Samuel Archie, a laborer, lived next door. At 1232 was the home of Robert Lienberger, a laborer at the Van shops; as was George H. Becker, who lived at 1236. The S D. Jenness & Co. dry goods and clothing store was located at 1238 Wabash Avenue.

Charles P. Bruce had a meat market at 1242 Wabash. In his basement he had a large treadmill wheel and for power used a large Newfoundland dog and a robust billy goat. They would run in the treadmill wheel and furnish power for sausage grinding machines and machines filling sausage cases. Their reward was choice bits of meat and they would treadle along and keep the machines operating by the hour.

The only factory east of the E. and T.H. freight house was the old woolen mill, built in 1867 by the Kennedys. In 1889 it still held some of the original machinery which had been inactive for several years.

Next east of the woolen mill was the oldest building east of the railroad. In 1850 census, it was known as the National Road Hotel, a small hotel operated by Charles Seaman.

Lawrence Kretz, a saloon keeper, has his business and residence at 1009 Wabash. Since David H. Proctor operated a boarding house at 1013 Wabash, the National Road House may have occupied two lots. The Shelburn Coal Co. was next door at 1023. At 1025 was the residence of Lewis Anderson, plasterer. This was the one story brick building in which Eugene Debs is said to have organized his first union, in 1875.

At 1101, Adam Schumaker had a butcher shop. His daughter married Hollie N. Oakley. Henry Wilson lived next door at 1103, and George A. Taylor occupied 1105 as a shoe store for many years.

Elliott W. Turner carried on a bakery and confectionary at 1107 and lived upstairs. Charles H. Woodruff had a grocery at 1109 and lived upstairs. A barber shop was conducted by John W. Funk at 1111 Wabash. At 1115 Joseph F. Rauch operated a saloon and lived upstairs. Christopher Leibing was a shoemaker and lived at 1117 and taught music on the side. Franz C. Heckelsberg was at 1119, a cagir maker. Mrs. M. J. Smith lived at 1123. Joseph E. Sartor and Richard H. Taylor ran a saloon at 1127. At 1129 was one of the founders, Meyer Levin, of Levin Brothers. Michael Larkin had a grocery at 1131, while at 1135 William Miller had a restaurant. Albert Seifer had a saloon at 1137; Otto Blei a barber shop at 1141; Pat Hickey had a store on the corner at 1143 with the usual saloon in the rear.

At 1201 was the drug store of James E. Somes; at 1207 Valentine Burgert had a grocery. Peter Mank manufactured cigars at 1215; Samuel F. Flaid had his veterinary office at 1217. Dr. Leslie McClain had his office and home at 1221. At 1223 Wabash Ferdinand Breitfelder had a shoemaker business and lived in the same, while at 1225 Cyrus P. Stevenson had a restaurant. A traveler, C. C. Shepard, lived at 1229 Wabash, and Fred P. Hauck had his barber shop at 1231. Charles F. Tencer moved to 1233 Wabash from a block further west where he also made boots and shoes and taught music as did his daughter who taught piano.

Another shoemaker, William W. Hare, had his shop at 1235 Wabash, with a Chinese laundry, Pong You, at 1239. Albert Neukom had his drug store at 1241 Wabash. Mr. Neukom, doing a fair business as a druggist, sold out and went to the Klondike. Like many thousands of others, he had to borrow money to get back home he was fond of telling in later years.

Thus, it was on East Wabash from 10th to 13th Sts. in 1889, some 85 years ago, a forerunner of the Greater East Side merchants.

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Parsons Tells of Visit To Terre Haute in 1840

Biography

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Ts APR 7 1974

When the little town of Terre Haute was only 24 years old in 1840, a young lawyer, John Parsons from Petersburg, Va., visited here on his tour of "the Wabash country." Intelligent and a keen observer, he carried letters of introduction from Eastern friends which gained him entry into what were known as "the most respectable families" of the various Indiana towns he visited.

The time of his journey was of unusual interest, the year of the William Henry Harrison campaign, the beginning of our modern presidential campaigns. The transportation available to this traveler of 1840 included the stage coach, the canal boat, the steamboat, horseback, and an occasional day's journey on the latest novelty, the railroad.

Traveling on a stage coach on the National Road across Clay county and into Vigo county, John Parsons met Mr. Chapman, editor of the WABASH ENQUIRER published at Terre Haute. As they rumbled along the bumpy road, Chapman filled him in on the beginnings of Terre Haute and its 2,000 inhabitants. The road was in good condition, and they crossed excellent bridges with stone abutments across small streams, and a notable long one known as "the yellow bridge" just before coming into town. After a brief visit to a camp meeting church revival in the woods, Parsons arrived at the Prairie House, built at the eastern edge of town by Chauncey Rose and kept by Mr. Barnum.

Parsons described his apartment at the Prairie House (now the site of the Terre Haute House) as "commodious and comfortable, and my meals all and more than I could have demanded." He found it to be the largest and best appointed inn in the state, if not in the West.

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The next morning, dressed in fresh broadcloth, ruffled shirt and his best beaver hat, Parsons set forth to find Dr. Layman's friend who introduced him to the town's most prominent physicians. Those he mentioned included pioneer Dr. Modesitt, "a typical Virginia gentleman, unchanged by his residence in a pioneer settlement. He can truly be called a pioneer for he built the first log house in Terre Haute, and proved himself a man of affairs, setting up a mortar for corn, when there was no mill, and established a ferry across the Wabash, at the same time laying the foundation for his reputation as a most excellent physician and surgeon. He is a graduate of Prince William College, and resided in Cincinnati for a season before coming to this place. He is a handsome gentleman, somewhat past fifty, with snow white hair, an erect figure, an imposing presence and most courtly manners."

Parsons wrote in his Journal about "most congenial Dr. Reed, a young gentleman of 29. In hisoffice on the public square he has collected a library of considerable size and merit."

He was also introduced to Dr. Ball, from New Jersey; Dr. Patrick; Dr. Richard Blake, a Southerner from Maryland; Dr. Daniels; and Dr. Thomas Parsons, a distant cousin from Virginia who had come to Indiana in 1819, a young boy with his family. In 1840 he was about 36 years old and as yet unmarried.

Parsons began his second day in Terre Haute by reading the local newspaper. He noted the market price of various commodities: flour, \$3.75 a barrel; meal, 12 and 15 cents a bushel; wheat, 50 cents a bushel; potatoes, 10 and 12 cents a bushel; butter, 5 and 6 cents a pound; eggs, 3 and 6 cents a dozen; whisky, 14 cents a gallon.

Because of the coming election, the greater part of the paper was devoted to political items. Quoting items copied from an Indianapolis paper, Parsons told of the origin of the adoption of the rooster as the symbol of the Democratic Party. The Whig paper told the story of how some leader had written to Editor Chapman telling him he must put on a bold front and seem to be positive the Democrats would win. "Tell Chapman he must crow," he said, and that this story got out, to the discomfort of the Democrats and the enormous delight of the Whigs, and that every Whig paper has in black letters, "Crow, Chapman, Crow."

The Whig citizens of Vigo County planned a barbeque in honor of the Hon. George H. Proffitt, Representative in Congress. Held in a grove south of town on Oct. 3, 1840, the barbeque was a success. The committee included: Thomas H. Blake, James Farrington, T. A. Madison, A. L. Chamberlain, John Dowling, Rufus Minor, Henry Ross, Charles T. Noble and Lucius Scott.

Parsons wrote in his Journal Griswold of the law firm of Usher & Griswold in their office on Cherry St. John P. Usher later became a member of Lincoln's cabinet.

Parsons write in his Journal about standing on the sidewalk and witnessing a "surging mass of porkers go by, a sight well worth the seeing. First went a man on horseback, scattering corn and uttering at intervals in a minor key the cry 'Pig-oo-ee! Pig-oo-ee!'" All along the sidewalk, at street crossings an at alley ways helpers were stationed to keep in line the pigs were driven forward from the rear by irovers with long sticks. The ear was brought up by the ery fat porkers who had to ave special attendants, and a agon followed for those who ecame too tired to walk. 'Twas an interesting sight, and we stood until they had entirely passed."

The river traffic here seemed to fascinate John Parsons. He told how, "in 1836, as many as 800 steamboats came here from New Orleans, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, being daily visitors during the boating season."

Next week's column will continue the account of Parsons' visit here.

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More About Parsons Visit To Terre Haute in 1840

Ts APR 14 1974

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Last week's column told of the visit to Terre Haute of the young Virginia attorney, John Parsons, and his reactions to our fair city of 2,000 inhabitants in 1840.

In 1840 more than 200 boats were carrying on a regular traffic between these Wabash towns and ports on the Ohio and Mississippi. However, the flat boats were the most astonishing sight to Parsons. He was amazed that the value of the produce and stock on flat boats was a million dollars annually. In less than a month and a half, in the fall, 1,000 flat boats passed down river, the majority of them loaded with flour, pork, etc., in this proportion: one-tenth with pork, 300 barrels to the boat; one-tenth, lard, cattle, horses, oats, cornmeal, etc.; and the remainder of the load consisting of corn on the ear. As proof that this was not always the load, he told of one flat boat carrying a load of hickory nuts, walnuts and venison hams.

Through Griswold and Usher, young Parsons met Judges Demas Deming, Elisha Huntington, Jenckes and Gookins. He also met another young attorney, Barbour, graduate of Indiana College at Bloomington who had read law in the office of Judge Isaac Blackford in Indianapolis.

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It was Curtis Gilbert who told Parsons of the visit here in 1831 of Henry Clay. He was entertained at the Eagle & Lion, the first tavern in the village, with its quaint sign of the American Eagle pecking out the eyes of the British Lion. In the early days it was frequented by chance travelers, and by the traveling lawyers, and it was the central place of meeting for the townspeople. There was an enormous stable for the accomodation of the stage and wagon horses.

Senator Clay, said Mr. Gilbert, was met several miles from the village by a large number of citizens and escorted into the town, with the roar of artillery. Addresses were made by prominent citizens and his elequent reply was still quoted by his admirers.

In addition to the pork-packing industry here, Parsons found stores of general merchandise, a most excellent market, a wagon yard, a brick yard, shoe-making, coopering, hat-making, and several mills. There were several private schools here and several churches.

Parsons could not know that in October of 1840, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College was to be founded, nor could he foresee Rose Polytechnic and the State Normal School (now Indiana State University) were soon to flourish here.

One morning Parsons met Chauncey Rose at the Prairie House. He described him as "serious-faced, the kindly gentleman. I found him pleasing at our first meeting, for though a man of reticent nature, he is in reality full of enthusiasm over his various enterprises."

Chauncey Rose told Parsons of his coming here when he was 25 (he was 47 in 1840) and seeing the potential value of prairie land, purchased 640 acres in one bract in 1830. Rose told him of his most recent business venture, the mining of iron ore in Greene county with a blast furnace for making pig iron about a mile from Bloomfield. It was called the Richland Furnace. From here the iron was hauled by horse teams to Louisville, a distance of 100 miles, at a cost of five dollars a ton. Later a steamboat would occasionally come up White River and take off the iron. The original members of this enterprise were Mr. Downing, M. H. Shryer, William Eveleigh, William Mason, E. J. Peck and A. L. Voorhees.

Since John Parsons' cousin, Dr. Parsons, was young and unmarried, it was natural he should meet the young ladies of the town. He told of the incident of a sunset walk to the Old Indian Orchard.

According to Parsons, "This spot is so called, I was informed, from an old Indian legend, and 'tis indeed a place of surpassing beauty. Three couples walked out together, Mr. Usher, Dr. Parsons and myself, in the company of the young females."

Indian Orchard was used as a burying ground for many years until the opening of the City Cemetery, now Woodlawn Cemetery, in 1839. A wooden marker located in the visitor's parking lot at Pillsbury Plant is now the only reminder of this old graveyard. Jonathan Kniffin, a Revolutionary War veteran, lies buried there.

In his travels Parsons told in the cider presses owned by many of the pioneer farmers, a kind of lever press, the apples being pounded or crushed with a wooden pestle or maul, and the cider pressed out. In most settlements there was at least one cider mill and press to which many farmers came with their apples, themselves doing the work, and paying the mill owner 10 cents per barrel for the use of the mill and the press.

As cider was an essential ingredient of the popular "apple butter," as the only vinegar to be procured was formed from the hard cider, and as everyone drank sweet cider, the cider mill was a most important institution.

During the 1840 Hard Cider, Log Cabin, Tippecanoe and Tyler, too, presidential campaign, the old cider mill was even more important.

John Parsons embarked for Vincennes, his next stopping off place, on the Steamer INDIAN late in July, 1840, after a pleasant week in the bustling, growing city of Terre Haute, Indiana. Since he had nothing bad to write in his Journal about our fair city and its inhabitants, he must have enjoyed his stay here and approved of the people he met and the places he visitd.

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Community Affairs File

Writer Suggests Taking Time to Stand and Stare

History (Fnt +)

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Ts AUG 18 1974

It was W. H. Davies who said: "What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?" And that bit of philosophy has caused me to deliberately stop what I might be doing and stand and stare at whatever might be going on at the moment. We all need to stand and stare occasionally.

For instance, wouldn't it have been fun to have been present when Chauncey Rose paid his county tax in 1820? I imagine everyone present stood and stared while he handed the county treasurer a silver dollar and got a "bit" in exchange — or two "fips" — his tax totalled 97½ cents. Fifty years later in 1870 Mr. Rose paid $6,000 county tax.

Local citizens could have stopped to see many events in Terre Haute a century ago. Irate citizens were complaining about hogs enjoying the freedom of the city, all ordinances to the contrary notwithstanding. When the hogs were rooting up the sidewalks they complained to Marshal Whiteman and he explained that the owners of the hogs turned them loose in the city after dark and penned them up again very early in the morning. He threatened to make night raids unless law violators stopped this practice immediately.

I imagine many persons stopped and stared when Theodore Hulman killed a three-foot sake at his residence near the hospital, the third such snake he had to dispatch in as many days!

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Probably several persons stood and stared when ground was broken the morning of Feb. 20, 1871, for the new parsonage of the First Presbyterian Church located at the rear of the church fronting on Mulberry Street. Snapp & Haynes were the builders.

Two years later sidewalk supervisors could have stood and stared at the construction of Chauncey Rose's new home at the northeast corner of Seventh and Chestnut Streets (where the Lab School is now). Chauncey Rose selected Julius Sypher, architect, with offices in the post office building, to plan his new home. The two-story brick was projected to cost $25,000 according to the building permit. Mr. Miller was the general contractor for the home.

Terre Haute citizens always enjoyed standing and staring at drilling projects within the city. By March, 1871, an artesian well on Cherry Street was down to a depth of 350 feet. The auger was boring through soapstone, and the size of the bore was 4⅛ inch, the same as for the well on the river bank. Local newspapers carried the results of the drilling at regular intervals and by April 21 they were down to 980 feet.

It's a funny thing about drilling wells in Terre Haute. If the driller wanted oil he invariably found only sulphur water too drink or bathe in. If he wanted an artesian well so he could start up a bath house or health resort, he invariably came up with a gusher that fouled up the air and lay in messy pools all over the ground.

Chauncey Rose drilled for good drinking water for his Prairie House, and with his usual luck struck oil. He

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

managed to cap it off, and was furious when the sulphur water used for the bath house tarnished the silverware in the hotel!

If one had been near the Vigo Iron Works one day in May, 1871, there was really a sight to stand and stare at. A. J. Crawford drove into the canal near there to soak the wheels of his buckboard (a common practice to tighten the rims and spokes). He got in over his head and had to swim out. The tires were perfectly tight when his vehicle was fished out of the pool. The newspaper reported that Crawford wasn't — too much water.

In June, 1871 a big sensation was the sight of a city policeman wheeling a drunk in a wheelbarrow down Ohio street to the station house.

I'm sure I would have stopped to stare at strawberries selling for only 15 cents a quart!

In an editorial comment the newspaper emphasized the point I'm trying to make now. "Curious, isn't it? To note with what interest people with nothing to do will stand for hours watching others at work. Yesterday afternoon (June 6, 1871) at the corner of 4th and Main we saw four men laying a pavement and 47 men and boys and three dogs looking on.

Write me a note or call me and tell me what you remember standing and staring at in Terre Haute. It should make a most interesting compilation of historical happenings. changes in Terre Haute's skyline in the past few years, so many landmarks torn down or altered, so many institutions moved, done away with, or changed in some manner.

And speaking of standing and staring . . . how long has it been since you watched a mother put her youngster or youngsters to bed? Why is it that Mothers are always more friendly and gentle with their children when they see them into bed. Perhaps because children are more lovable when they are going to bed; more pardonable when they are in their undergarments or naked; and more pitiable when silence and darkness are about to close upon them, although the rest of the world is still awake.

A New Englander Looks At Terre Haute in 1850

TS MAY 25 1975

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

A New Englander's Journal was published in 1850, and present-day Terre Hauteans will be interested in the description of a stagecoach trip from Terre Haute to Indianapolis. Some of the statements do not quite conform to history, but as a casual impression it is interesting.

Wednesday, May 30, 1850. — This morning I started for Terre Haute, in Indiana, and on the way there I passed some very fine farms and farming lands.

This town is located on the eastern side of the Wabash, up on a plain situated on a high bluff. It is the handsomest town I have visited in all the western country. It is about the size of Dover, N.H. It is laid out in a regular manner, the streets crossing each other at right angles. The streets are nearly all lined on each side by a beautiful row of black locusts. These trees bear a white blossom and being at this time in full bloom, they give a beautiful appearance to the place, and at the same time fill the air with the fragrance of their odor, which can be perceived at nearly a mile distant from the place.

The buildings here are finished in fine style, being partly built of wood and partly of brick.

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The streets are wide and clean, having good sidewalks. This is a shire town and the county buildings here will compare well with the same kind of public buildings in New England.

I am now about to commence a journey from this place to the city of Washington, by the way of Indianapolis, and Cincinnati in Ohio. With this view, I have this afternoon engaged a passage on the mail stage from this place to Indianapolis. The mail is to start tomorrow morning at 3 o'clock, and I am off to bed in season to get some rest before its departure.

The Great Adventure

Thursday, May 31. — This morning at the appointed time, I took the stage for Indianapolis. It is very cold this morning for the season, and I have suffered the want of my overcoat, which I could not get at to put on without unpacking my carpet bag, for which I have had no time this morning.

A wedding party from Kentucky having engaged the inside of the coach beforehand, I and another gentleman, a merchant from Illinois, going to Louisville, Ky., to purchase goods, were forced to ride on the outside. Amongst the wedding party were a man and his wife and their female slave. This being the first slave and owner I had ever seen together, my curiosity was a little excited to see how they would manage affairs. They seemed to make a companion of their servant, so far as conversation was concerned; but she took care of an infant child, and waited upon its mother, and at meal time she had her food furnished in another room, and did not sit at the same table with the rest of the company.

The towns passed through on our route today were Williamstown, Van Buren, Brazil, Pleasant Garden, Manhattan, Greencastle, Stilesville, Belville, Plainfield and Bridgeport.

The face of the country on this road is generally level and the land good. The buildings on the road are better than in Illinois in general, and some of the farm houses are good. The larger proportion of the towns are small, but on the whole rather pleasant places. Greencastle is the county seat of Greene county; it is rather a large and handsome place, and surrounded by a fine farming country. In addition to the other public buildings [illegible] this place, there is a college in a flourishing condition.

The road over which we are traveling today is the National Road, which at one time was the subject of no small discussion in political parties, it being one of the objects styled internal improvements. The road runs very nearly east and west the whole distance from Terre Haute to Indianapolis.

Turning Back History

During the administration of John Quincy Adams, large appropriations were annually made by congress for building this road; but when Andrew Jackson came to occupy the presidential chair, he put a stop to these appropriations by the application of the veto

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over

Dorothy Clark

Ts MAY 25 1975

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power. Since that time nothing has been done to the road. and many of the causeways and bridges, which at the time of their erection were finished in a very expensive manner, are now in a dilapidated condition.

General Jackson was severely censured by many at the time he applied his veto to this road, but it appears to me that any unprejudiced man who now passes over this road must be convinced that the funds expended in building this road, in the manner at first contemplated, were nearly or quite thrown away and that Old Hickory was deserving of the thanks of the nation for putting a stop to this useless expenditure of the public money.

That portion of the road in the state of Indiana, leading from Indianapolis to Terre Haute, has by some means become the property of the state, and is being converted into a plank road. Some fifteen or twenty miles of this has been graded, and the plank laid down on about eight, over which we passed today. Plank roads are being built in many places in the western country, but no faster than they are needed by the public; for their roads are so muddy spring and fall, I am told, that a horse and wagon cannot travel more than ten or twelve miles in a day over them, without any load.

Plank roads can be traveled at all seasons and heavy loads drawn over them with small teams. These roads are built by grading the road in nearly the same manner that railroads are graded, and then laying down plank from 12 to 16 feet long crosswise; and after these are laid down, clay is thrown up at their ends, which, when it is dried and settled down, confines the plank securely in their places. One end of the plank is a very little elevated, so that the water may be turned off the road. On these roads carriages run light and easy, and one is but little more jolted than when riding in the cars. About seven o'clock this evening I arrived in Indianapolis, having rode 74 miles on the top of a stagecoach.

Trade Builds a City: Terre Haute in the 1870s

History (T.H.) — 1870

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

TS JUN 15 1975

It used to be said that trade builds up a city, and as the city grows, the trade increases. Sounds logical, and by 1877 the dry goods trade of Terre Haute had grown entirely out of the memory of the old inhabitant.

Hoberg, Root & Co. was first established in 1856 by Rice Edsall & Co. Mr. Rice, the head of the firm, died in 1857, and the firm name was then changed to Edsall, McDougall & Co. In 1850 the house started a branch in Fort Wayne under the supervision of L. B. Root. In a short time, Mr. McDougall retired from the firm and went to Fort Wayne and Mr. Root returned and became a partner in the home house, the firm being changed to that of Edsall, Root & Co. In less than a year, however Mr. Root retired, and the firm name was changed to Edsall & Co.

In June, 1865, Mr. A. J. Edsall, the leading man of the house, died and the business was continued in the name of Edsall & Co. by a new partnership composed of George W. Knowlton of New York, Chauncey Warren and C. C. Oakey of Terre Haute. In 1867, Max Hoberg, a long-time cashier of the house, was admitted to partnership, but the firm name was continued as before until February, 1869, when Mr. Oakey withdrew and the firm was changed to that of Warren, Hoberg & Co. In 1872 the extensive establishment was moved from the southwest corner of 4th and Main, where the firm had done business so long, to the new and magnificent Opera House building, which had just arisen from the ashes of the old Spinning Wheel Corner.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Shortly after the move, L. B. Root returned from Fort Wayne and purchased the interest of Mr. Knowlton. The retiring of Mr. Warren in 1872 left the entire business in the hands of Messrs. Hoberg & Root, and the firm name was changed to Hobert. Root Co. Max Hoberg ran the business here, while Mr. Root had his headquarters in New York where he did all the buying.

In 1877 the dry goods store was "described as being in "one of the finest buildings in the West. It occupies a most convenient and desirable position on Main street, and commands the center of trade. The main store room is a magnificent one. In front are large and tasty awnings. It has four large plate glass show windows, within which are displayed great quantities of goods in the best taste and harmony, making a great attraction."

Another downtown store in 1877 was that of T. H. Riddle, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Millinery Goods, Trimmings, Jewelry, Fancy and Variety Goods, etc. Mr. Riddle came to this city in 1865, unknown and with very small capital ,and opened up business in a small room on North Fourth street. By close personal attention to business and a happy faculty of pleasing his customers he soon found it necessary to find larger quarters, and in the spring of 1867 he removed to larger quarters. At first the room was shared with a jewelry store, but as business increased he occupied three-fourths of the space until 1869, when he bought out the jewelry store and combined the trade. As business grew, he continued to increase space, first the main floor, then second and third floors, and in 1872 he was able to purchase the building and add an extension of forty feet. By 1877 he occupied the entire building from cellar to garret, and was doing over $100.000 worth of business annually.

Mr. Riddle was described as being a "courteous, affable gentleman, attentive and anxious to please his customer." His wife was also listed in the 1877 business directory as "Mrs. T. H. Riddle, Millinery, Ladies Furnishing Goods, and Agent for Butterick's Patterns." Few, if any, ladies in Terre Haute were unacquainted with Mrs. Riddle and her fine selection of goods at No. 12 S. 4th St. She was considered a forcible example of what indomitable courage, perseverence and energy will accomplish. Twelve years before she and her husband came to this city and opened a small store at 18 N. 4th St. with notions and sewing machines; they both worked very hard to make it a success. In 1873, Mrs. Riddle obtained the agency for But-

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Dorothy Clark

TS JUN 15 1975

Continued From Page 4.

terick's Patterns and opened her own store at 325 Main St.

Next she moved to 12 S. 4th St. with the largest retail trade in her line in the city. She also manufactured and dealt in all kinds of real hair goods.

Mrs. E. B. Messmore, Hair Work, Hair Jewelry, etc., was located at 511½ Main street. When the ladies of Terre Haute needed excellent switches or the best false hair, they traded with Mrs. Messmore. With eight years experience, she was considered the best in town as a hair dresser and manufacturer. She made a specialty of "converting combings into switches and curls as nice as cut hair . . . the work is speedy aud perfect, converting your bunches of combings into curls, with every root uppermost, as they grew on the head . . . save your combings and have Mrs. Messmore convert them into things of beauty. She keeps a full line of all grades and colors of hairgoods."

The oldest music store in Terre Haute, or in Western Indiana, was Kussner's Palace of Music, 213 Ohio St., which was established in 1864. In 1865 it was destroyed by fire, but by 1877 was described as "raised from its ashes larger and stronger than ever" . . . he was agent for the celebrated Knabe and Cycloid Pianos, besides carrying a large stock of everything in his music line.

Still in downtown Terre Haute is the W. H. Paige & Co., Dealers in Pianos, Organs, Sheet Music and Musical Merchandise. In 1877 the firm was located at 607 Main street. "Here may be found every description of musical instrument from the Jew's harp up to the world-renowned Chickering Piano, and the largest and best stock of sheet music to be found in the city. "They also handled the Mason & Hamlin and Este Organs for church and parlor use. Mr. Paige was well versed in his business, having had many years experience in Cincinnati before coming to Terre Haute. From a small beginning in 1871, his business had grown to be a thriving one in six years time. To further the interests of musical education, Mr. Paige had established a conservatory of music with courses of instruction in Svstem of Notation, Harmony, Composition, Instrumentation, Vocalization Practice in Chorus Singing, Piano Forte, Organ, Violin, Guitar, and all Orchestral Instruments. A prosperous business future was predicted way back in 1877.

Historically Speaking

~~Terre Haute~~ Ts FEB 29 1976

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

What is a city? The U.S. Census Bureau defines a city as "urban" any place with 2,500 or more inhabitants. A city is many things — political, economic and social, historical and geographic, physical, and even psychological.

Every great city owes its eminence to commerce. The factor of chief importance in the location of cities is a break in transportation. A mere transfer of goods requires considerable machinery, and so we find commercial centers at the confluence of rivers, head of navigation, fords, meeting point of hill and plain, and other places where the physical configuration requires a vehicle.

But the greatest centers will be those where the physical transfer of goods is accompanied with a change of ownership; with added mechanical apparatus of temporary storage and transfer.

Importer and exporter, merchants and money-changers accumulate vast wealth and require the presence of other classes to satisfy these wants and the population will grow rapidly. This would prove true in Terre Haute where all the above conditions were working for us.

The city directory for 1908 was printed by Moore-Langen Printing Co. It showed the city had grown rapidly during the preceding year and fixed the population at 67,657. To this was added the list for Taylorville (now Dresser) and West Terre Haute, bringing the total up to 70,357.

The city was growing by leaps and bounds in 1908, with 12,000 dwelling houses and some 2,000 business structures in the city, double the number in 1900. In the first six months of 1908, the value of houses for which building permits had been issued was $603,828 against $577,919 in the same period of 1907.

Terre Haute had 13 lines os steam railroad, four lines of interurban railway, coal was delivered at the factory for 85 cents a ton, and there was inexhaustible supply of water.

Fifty years earlier in 1858, Terre Haute's first city directory was published. The contrast between the two volumes showed a growth in population from 3,700 to over 70,000.

In 1858, the city boasted three railroads with daily (except Sunday) train service. Then there was the Wabash & Erie Canal, the means of transportation for much merchandise. Three stage lines were in operation. Travelers could leave for St. Louis every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The stage to Attica made daily trips. The conveyance for Crawfordsville left Monday and Thursday.

In 1858, Terre Haute had fourteen churches and three newspapers. As was to be expected, the Smith family had the most names in the book. To the 356 plain Smiths were added Smythe, 5; Schmidt, 11; and Schmitz, 6. The Miller and Davis clans divided the honors for second place in the family list. Brown was in third place with 178, while the popular Jones family was fourth with 160. Johnson with 156 would have taken fourth place if ten of the family had not insisted on spelling the name Johnston.

For using up large sections of the alphabet, Bauermeister and Blankenbaker appear to have the honors until the next section when George A. Christakopoulos gained a big lead. There were also eight Fuerstenburgers and 12 Oelgeschlaegers. Another jaw breaker was Schnachtenberger.

Terre Haute had always been a prize fraternity city and the directory proved this by listing 102 separate organizations, representing 39 different fraternal orders. On Sundays in 1908, the citizens of Terre Haute could attend the 54 churches listed.

American society became nationalized when an official flag was adopted in 1911, an anthem in 1913, and uniform national holidays in 1968. Symbols such as "Uncle Sam" stood for a nation with a totality impossible before the 19th century.

Celebrations and festivities are losing their nationalistic or religious character. Christmas is viewed as the major consumer's holiday of the year; Thanksgiving is an exercise in gluttony; Independence Day is a summer's holiday weekend; and Washington's Birthday a midwinter break, a "birthday" scheduled so that it always falls on Monday.

Contrasting then and now a little further — technological development has created confusion. Pullman's sleeping

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and dining railroad cars blurred distinction between home and travel. The use of glass as common building material broke down the sharp dividing line between "inside" and "outside." Growth of supermarkets and their myriad of products during any hour of day and night, blurred the kinds of stores and the distinction between shopping and non-shopping time.

Television went beyond everything else in altering everyday experience. Man did not need to go out to see anything in particular; he just turned the knob and wondered while he watched.

Historically Speaking

~~History (T.H.)~~

History of Terre Haute goes back to year 1816

Clark, Dorothy

TS DEC 25 1977

By Dorothy Clark

A famous historian once said, "What is known to everybody of one generation is known by none of the succeeding generations unless someone took the pains to record the facts."

I've just completed writing 52 Sunday columns for 1977, and I can attest to the fact that there is some pain involved in all this work — research, interviewing, reading, writing, typing, indexing, etc. This is my 21st volume, and I look back and remember when A. R. Markle asked me to take over the Sunday historical column in 1956, and how I marveled at how he had written it for 25 years. I seem to be catching up with his enviable record.

Terre Haute's history goes back to 1816, 161 years ago, and newcomers to our city as well as older residents need to be reminded that Terre Haute began as a real estate development, a town on paper, so to speak. Most towns developed because of their location, at a crossroads, or a river landing, near a mill, or some reason for settlement at that particular point. Not so Terre Haute.

There were a few log cabins here, and the Indian village was still located where Pillsbury Plant is now. But all the action was still up north at Fort Harrison where even the Post Office was located.

The town proprietors bought the land, mapped the town lots, and advertised in eastern newspapers. Then they bribed the state legislators with promises of land and money if they could choose Terre Haute as the county seat of Vigo County in 1818.

After that land sales began to pick up. Where the courts were, there were the people and the trading.

More and more people settled here, and the town began to boom.

The river traffic helped, so did the National Road through here, then the Wabash and Erie Canal.

We became a railroad center, a pork-packing center, and with the droves of hogs passing down Main Street to the packing houses along the river, we almost became Porkopolis.

Terre Haute has always been a major trading center for the Wabash Valley.

In 1832, 145 years ago, Terre Haute was incorporated as a town; by 1835 a local census showed we had 183 families and a population of 1,200.

Terre Haute became a melting pot. Yankees from New England; Southerners from the Deep South and Kentucky (we were so southern in early days we celebrated Christmas with firecrackers!); French trappers and early settlers from Vincennes; Irish came to build the canal and railroads; Welsh and English and Scotsmen came to work in our coal mines, our steel mills and foundries; Middle-Europeans came to work in our factories; five percent Negro, then and now; Germans came to work in our machine shops, our breweries and distilleries, and still more came.

At one stage in local history, there was one saloon for every 200 people in Terre Haute. We printed seven different German newspapers here which were distributed throughout the Midwest.

Terre Haute has always been a melting pot and still is. This has a great deal to do with our present circumstances.

According to the latest census figures, Terre Haute is sixth in the nation in percentage of those over 65 years of age. The Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla., area leads with 20.3 percent; Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 18 percent; West Palm Beach, Fla., 17.3 percent; Atlantic City, N.J., 16.3 percent; St. Joseph, Mo., 14.8 percent; and Terre Haute with 14 percent. This also influences our community.

The three major centers of higher education here, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College established in 1840, and Indiana State University and Rose-Hulman Institute, both over 100 years old, have grown and influenced our town.

Mass transportation began in Terre Haute about 1865. Before that we had horse-drawn omnibuses operated by the different hotels in town to transport passengers from the railroad depot to downtown. The depot then was at Tenth and Chestnut streets.

There were only two horse-drawn cars on the line with a turnoff in front of the old Prairie House, now the Terre Haute House, where the cars could pass each other.

The cars seated about 20 passengers. A round trip took half an hour, from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m., and one car ran all night every half hour. The fare was five cents.

Your comment might well be "so much for progress, we had better service then than now."

One of my favorite theories about local history is that there is really nothing new, just different people doing it.

For instance, as early as 1864 there was a city ordinance against dogs running at large in the city.

But, if they did run loose, they had to have a muzzle because of rabies. Policemen received 25 cents for every dog they shot.

Over the years we've had so many ordinances against vice and immorality, it's difficult to see how Terre Haute ever got the name of Sin City!

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Ts MA 1978

~~Terre Haute~~

Paper includes story concerning ghost town of Terre Haute, Iowa

Clark, Dorothy

Ts MAR 1 2 1978

Ts MAR 1 2 1978

Upon her return from a visit to her husband's family in Iowa, Mrs. C. L. Cochran of Brazil was kind enough to send me a clipping from The Leon Journal-Reporter of Leon, Iowa.

Under the heading "Reflections of Decatur County (Iowa)" was written the history of the ghost town of Terre Haute, Iowa. Mrs. Cochran reported there was nothing left of the former town but the foundation of the old hotel.

It seems that Mordecci Miller (1810-80) married Margaret Toney (1821-1910), the daughter of "Talton" Toney, in Terre Haute, Ind.

Talton Toney's son, William Ray Toney (1822-1903) married Mordecci Miller's daughter, Earyan (1831-1900) by a previous marriage.

In either the late 1840's or early 1850's, Mordecci and his wife, Margaret, arrived in Iowa with their team of oxen and freighter wagon from Terre Haute, Ind.

On the south bank of the Grand river, Mordecci platted and named the new town of Terre Haute, Iowa.

The Millers had stopped in Ottumwa, Iowa, for the birth of a daughter named (you guessed it) Ottumwa Miller.

As soon as they arrived on the 1,000 acres of land Mordecci Miller had purchased from the government at Chariton, Iowa, for $1.25 per acre, they built a cabin.

According to descendants, Margaret (Toney) Miller was a big, stout woman who could lift logs, drive horses, or knock a man silly, just like a man.

Late in 1853 or early 1854, Mordecci's son-in-law and daughter, William Ray "Bill" and Earyan (Miller) Toney decided to join them. They brought with them in a freighter wagon pulled by oxen, two little babies, James and William "Bill" II.

Traveling with them were William Ray Toney's father, Talton Toney, and his English wife who was a licensed doctor.

At that time Decatur county was still virgin territory with no roads to mark the way. According to family tradition, the travelers were not sure where the homestead of Mordecci and Margaret was located.

It was dark, they had journeyed far and all were tired out. On the north side of Grand river they found a likely spot to camp for the night and decided to stop, resuming their journey in the morning.

When the family awoke the next morning and were preparing to move on, they heard a rooster crow. Believing the sound to come from across the river, they forded the stream and found their family.

A short time later, Benjamin Norman came to this same location to settle. The ghost town of Terre Haute is now part of the farm owned by Ronald Norman, great-great-grandson of Benjamin.

From 1855 to 1860 the pioneer settlers poured into Decatur county to take up land. round the settlement of Mordecci Miller settled the Shaffners, Slaughters, Joe Lucas (who could speak Indian), Isaac Toney (another son of Talton Toney), the Butchers and the Birds.

The Throfmartins ran a grist mill, and the Shaffners ran a saw mill. The remains of the old cave where Margaret ran the first hotel following the death of her husband can still be seen.

Other early settlers were the Odells, McGaugheys, Cases, Downards and the Sutherlins. With the influx of settlers, there was a need for a store, so on the river bank where the Indians had a little trading post, William Ray Toney started up a store. He made trips to Ottumwa for supplies in a horse-drawn freighter wagon.

Talton Toney's English doctor wife left him and married a Robinson. Talton got drunk and fell in the river and would have drowned, but there happened to be some people at the little store, and they pulled him out.

About this time, 1855-60, there were about 300 Indians with their squaws and ponies camped about a mile up the river from the site of Terre Haute. They were camped just south of where Elk Creek enters Grand River.

When the Civil War broke out, William Ray Toney went to war. He survived six months in Andersonville Prison, escaping after bribing a rebel guard with a $20 gold piece he had concealed on his person. The day after he arrived home after many hardships, the war was over and the prisoners were sent home by train.

Mordecci Miller gave the land for the Terre Haute Cemetery. The oldest stone is dated 1865. Talton died in 1867 and lies in an unmarked grave. Mordecci died in 1880 and has the most prominent stone in the cemetery.

In 1880, the death knell sounded for the little town. There were two stores, the Burrell Post Office, a cooper shop, shoe shop, barber shop, Ham Hounshell's blacksmith shop, a hotel, Dr. Daniels' office, and a saloon run by George Butcher.

Like so many communities, Terre Haute, Iowa, died because of the railroads. The DesMoines-Southern Railroad had thrown up a grade on the east side of Terre Haute and had come to Decatur City where $20,000 had been contributed. Here it stopped, waiting for Terre Haute or Lamoni to continue on. Miller had died, and no one else could come up with the money. Lamoni already had the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Leon offered $30,000 and the railroad turned its tracks and went there. In 1884 it ended at Cainsville, Mo., and in 1885 was bankrupt. It also nailed the lid on the coffin for the village of Terre Haute. As the towns of Leon and Lamoni grew and prospered, the businesses in Terre Haute began to disappear.

In 1886, Dr. Daniels left, a flood wiped out the grist mill, and the old folks passed away. If a house would burn or be blown down, it was never replaced. The heyday of Terre Haute was definitely over by World War I.

As Terre Haute (Indiana) was the center for horse-racing enthusiasts in the past, so was its little namesake, Terre Haute (Iowa). During 1870-80, the favorite Sunday pasttime was to hold horse and pony races on a level half-mile stretch of road lying directly south of Terre Haute, Iowa.

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Community Affairs File Vigo County Public Library

—Historically Speaking—

By Dorothy Clark

~~History (T.H.)~~

Terre Haute at turn of century—points of interest for sightseers

Ts APR 2 3 1978

Seventy-five years ago, John D. Bell, chairman of the committee for the Old Boys convention to be held in Terre Haute, marked 114 points of interest for sightseers.

The list was printed for the benefit of those who had the task of personally conducting the Old Boys and Girls about the city during their visit here.

The guests were to be shown St.Mary-of-the-Woods College, Polytechnic (now Rose-Hulman, then located at 13th and Locust), the State Normal (now Indiana State University), the High School (later Wiley and now the site of the new Vigo County Public Library) and some of the district schools.

The new churches, namely St. Benedict's, Centenary, First Congregational, First Methodist, were open for inspection.

Guides were reminded to "tell the old fellows that Hulman & Co.'s great store, the finest wholesale grocery in the west, is on the site of Dave Phillips' Pig & Whistle saloon."

Practically all of the hotels had been rebuilt or remodelled within the past 15 years (1889-1904). The Fairbanks Library was under construction, as was the present river bridge. The Union Station with its beautiful park, as well as the Big Four station were showplaces.

Visitors were sure to be interested in the biggest brewery in the state and the biggest distilleries in the world, and were taken to the race track where Axtell made his record as well as many other world's records.

So great were the changes in the banks that the Old Boys were not expected to recognize any of them.

The Buntin House, 1855, later the St. Charles, was the Peyton, Third and Walnut, in 1904.

Groverman's residence, 1843, was the Old Chadwick House between Third and Fourth on Ohio.

The 1840 Congregational Church, Sixth and Cherry, was partly torn down. Judge Gookins' residence, 1848, was then Coates College on Osborne St. Judge Deming's home, 1843, was still at the southeast corner of Sixth and Walnut. J. K. Graff's home, 1848, was then Dr. Jenkins' residence on Ohio Street.

Chauncey Rose's home, 1838, was the home of Miss Hemingway, northeast corner of Seventh and Chestnut, in 1904 (now Lab School).

Sibleytown, 1840, was all north of the old canal. John Buntin's residence, 1844, was the back building of the Filbeck in 1904. The Old Pavillion became the site of the Filbeck Hotel

The site of Early's pork house, northwest of Water Street, was north of the Vandalia Railroad. The 1851 residence of M. Byers was on the southeast corner of Fifth and Mulberry..The 1844 home of D. Bell was the residence of Max Myers.

The Fourth Brick House in 1904 was the front part of the stable located at the northeast corner of Third and Walnut.

The site of Joe Miller's pork house, 1840-46), was at the northwest corner of Water and Chestnut where the hominy mill was later located. Warren's pork house was located about 100 feet south of the Big Four Railroad, on the west side of Water Street. William Miller's hog slaughter house, 1843, was west of Water street, and south of the Big Four. His 1843 residence was a brick home on the east side of Water Street.

The cemetery, established in 1818, was west of Water Street and north of the hominy mill. Blaize's mill, 1854, was southwest of Water and Chestnut. J. M. Tolbert's residence, 1844, was south of Chestnut and east of Water. T. B. John's mill, 1855, was on the northeast corner of Water and Mulberry.

Jacob Ryman's residence, 1852, was at the southwest corner of First and Mulberry. J. Minichs' residence, 1843, was a brick house at the northeast corner of First and Mulberry.

Welches' Tavern, 1850, was located at the northwest corner of First and Cherry. Dr. Ball's office and residence, 1840, later the Social Settlement, was on the southwest corner of First and Cherry. Billy Ramage's home, 1843, was on the southeast corner.

The Eagle & Lion Tavern, 1838, was on the southeast corner of First and Main. The Clark House, 1852, was a wagon yard in 1904 at the northwest corner of First and Ohio. The Market House, 1834, was the site of City Hall, northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut.

John Burgett's boarding house in 1844 became the Early House, and the Pavillion Tavern, 1840, became the Filbeck House.

The old railroad depot, south of Wabash Avenue, was near the Southern Indiana railroad tracks in 1904.

Farrington grove was between Third and Fifth, south of Park Street. Monkey Field or Early Grove was opposite Woodlawn Cemetery. Indian Orchard was on the hill of the Waterworks.

Camp Vigo was located opposite the north end of Collett Park. Camp Dick Thompson was located on the north side of the Bloomington road south of where Lakeview Park was 75 years ago. The show grounds in 1850 were located on the block between Fifth and Sixth and Main and Ohio streets.

L. H. Scott's residence, 1840, on the southwest corner of Third and Ohio, was built by one of the Lintons. Scott married Linton's widow. Linton's home, 1836, later was the old Ross office on Ohio, and was known as Linton's Block in 1904.

Dr. Daniel's home, 1840, became Dr. Roberts' at Seventh and Ohio. Dr. Reed's home, 1844, became the Nicholson Block.

The points of interest on the 1904 guide list will be continued in next Sunday's column.

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

~~History (TH)~~

More of the 114 attractions listed at the turn of the century

TS APR 3 0 1978

Last Sunday's column began the listing of John D. Bell of the 114 points of interest to be pointed out to the Old Boys convention while visiting their old stamping grounds.

The National Road House, 1838, became a theatre east of 10th on the south side of Main street. The Prairie House, 1834, was on the site of the present Terre Haute House.

The Wabash & Erie Canal locks of 1850 were at 2nd and Chestnut.

Wallace's foundry of 1843 was located at the southwest corner of 1st and Swan. The Wallace residence, 1843, became the old Link property.

Nippert's store, 1844, was located on the northwest corner of 2nd and Ohio. Bement & Viehle store, 1844, became the wool house of Jonas Strouse on Second street.

Dowling Hall, 1863, which later became Miller's bakery, was located where Forrest Sherer's offices are now.

J. D. Early's store in 1840 was on the northeast corner of 2nd and Main. The Stewart House, 1842. on 2nd north of Main, became the old Ryan stable.

The Green Tree Tavern, 1860, was located on the southeast corner of 2nd and Cherry. McQuilkin's Tavern, was on the northeast corner of 3rd and Main, and the Sloan Tavern, 1846, was north of Main, west of the alley, between 2nd and 3rd.

The Old Blue Brick, later C. C. Smith & Sons Co., was on the southeast corner of 3rd and Main, and is again painted blue.

R. W. Thompson's residence, 1845, later the home of J. A. Juergen, was at the southwest corner of 4th and Main. Recruiting headquarters for the Mexican War in 1848 was on the opposite southeast corner.

Dole's livery stable, 1843, was located on the southeast corner of 3rd and Cherry. The Mansion House, 1843, was located on the northeast corner of 3rd and Mulberry. Mrs. Taylor's residence of 1840 became the home of her son-in-law and daughter, the Isaac Bail's.

King's Oil Mill, 1842, was on the northeast corner of 4th and Ohio. The First School House was on the northeast corner of 5th and Walnut. Hussey's tavern, 1836, was on Walnut between 1st and Water.

The first post office, 1818, northeast corner Water and Ohio, now the jail, was also the first frame house. The second post office, 1840, was north of Ohio, east of the alley between 1st and 2nd. The third post office, 1847, was east of 5th and south of Main. The fourth was a brick building built in 1852 south of Juergen's store. The fifth was on the east side of 6th, south of the alley between Main and Ohio, and the sixth post office was built in 1887.

The State Bank of Indiana, 1836, was the old Curiosity Shop on Ohio between 2nd and 3rd (now known as Memorial Hall).

The first brick house was on the southeast corner of 1st and Swan; the first brick store room, southwest corner 2nd and Ohio. The first church stood on the northeast corner of 4th and Poplar, and the Universalist church of 1844 stood on the southeast corner of 4th and Ohio.

The Spinning Wheel corner became the Naylor-Cox block, northeast corner 4th and Main. Locust Corner was at the northwest corner of 3rd and Main.

The Town Hall of 1843 was on 3rd street north of Ohio on the east side. The first jail, 1824, was on the northeast corner of 2nd and Poplar; second jail, 1832, northwest corner 3rd and Walnut; and present jail, Ohio and Water streets.

Dr. Modesitt's residence, 1836, was at the southeast corner of Ohio and Water. Button's distillery, 1835, was on the southeast corner of Water and Oak.

St.Stephen's Episcopal church, later the Adelphi theatre, 1868, and later Kuhn's stable, was on 5th between Wabash and Cherry.

Baum Garden, 1843, was on the southwest corner of 5th and Oak. Britton's Garden, 1842, was on the southeast corner of 5th and Poplar.

The first theatre, 1840, was on the south side of Mulberry, east of 2nd street. The St. Charles hotel, 1855, was on the southeast corner of 3rd and Mulberry. Henry Rose's residence, 1846, became the Minshall home on Cherry street.

John Sibley's mill, 1852, was located on the northwest corner of Elm and Lafayette. The Redford House was on the Faust corner on Lafayette St. The first house on Section 16 was built in 1838 east of 4th and north of 8th Ave. The first bridge across the Wabash river was built in 1847 at the foot of Ohio street. The canal bridge was built in 1857 at 9½ and Main streets.

The brewery in 1845 was located on the northeast corner of Water and Cherry streets. Glick's Brewery, 1854, was where Kidder's Mill was located in 1904. Longdon's Ferry in 1838 was at the foot of Main street. The Silk Worm House was built in 1844 at the northwest corner of 6th and Eagle.

The Preston farm house built of stone was on Poplar east of 13th (where it is now in dilapidated condition). The Jewett farm house was located on 14th north of Chestnut.

The Old Stage Line yard became the site of the home of George H. Hebb, 418-422 N. 5th St. The old circus grounds was opposite the Terre Haute. The old boom logs, located at the foot of Mulberry street, furnished a swimming hole for the Old Boys.

The Rebel Prison, later Wabash Distillery bond warehouse, stood on the hill southeast of the corner at 1st and Park streets.

The Imbrey brewery was located on the northwest corner of 7th and Sycamore.

The home built by Colonel R. W. Thompson in 1851 became the residence of William C. and S. F. Ball on South 6th street below College Ave. Sam McDonald's "Rowdy Hall", later remodeled by Col.Thompson, became the home of J. H. Wathen on South 6th below College.

All the Old Boys and Girls, classmates in the Old Seminary School where the ISU campus is now, must have enjoyed nostalgic tours of the city while here for the 1904 reunion. One of the omissions they would have noted was the Morris Grocery located at 5th and Ohio where the Old Baldwin church was located in their time.

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Jockey Alley's human comedy

How its folks lived and died

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

TS SEP 10 1978

~~Terre Haute~~

Jockey Alley with all its years of mingled hilarity, pathos, tragedy, and unsanitary conditions was doomed to annihilation in 1910. No more sharp bargains, struck by grasping, tricky, drunken horse traders from all parts of the underworld would be made in this small but noted thoroughfare in the worst part of Terre Haute's west end.

No longer would there be heard the shrill notes of women and children coming from the dilapidated sheds they called home. No more groans of half-starved, half-frozen creatures would be heard as cold blasts of harsh winter wind whistled through cracks of crumbling sheds.

An order from the Board of Children Guardians was issued that never again would a child make its home in that highway of poverty, shame and filth. Jockey Alley ran north and south between First and Second streets, and between Wabash Ave. and Cherry street. It consisted of a long row of half-decayed sheds, each with one small window and a battered door leading into the alley.

The roofs leaked, the floors had rotted away, the walls were so warped that in many places a hand could be thrust through the cracks between the weatherboarding.

The Society for Organized Charity was credited with the movement to wipe this blot from the map of Terre Haute. Miss Rhoda Welding found housing for those who lived there, and, when Jockey Alley was empty, called in city authorities to destroy the hovels.

Hannah Porter, the oldest tenant who had lived there for fifteen years, knew more than any other living person of the characters who had come and gone, and of the lives they lived. At the age of seventy, despite her unsanitary surroundings, she was in good health in 1910 and living in a single room alone which cost her $20 a year for rent.

Her aged husband lived at the extreme end of the row of hovels where he enjoyed comparative luxury, for he drew a pension and was counted as one of the best foragers in Jockey Alley Hannah said she never quarreled with her husband, but they had nothing in common. She received nothing from his pension, but was called "Queen of the Row" as her quarters were the cleanest and the best stocked. She was a good forager also.

A local photographer visited one of the rooms and described it as "dark as a dungeon because of broken window glass pasted over with paper, and the air stifling with the odor of steam from boiling clothes washed in a rusty dish pan with foul-smelling lye soap, a soft soap made from lye and rancid grease. The place reeked with odors of scorched corn, sour food gathered from garbage pails back of commission houses and from general filth soaked into soft boards that formed the walls and floors. A wallpaper sample book had been used to paper the walls with a crazy quilt effect".

On a hard board cot in the corner of a little room lay the head of the family, sick. His wife was unable to cope with the situation. Their eight-year-old girl had never seen the inside of a school room. Dirty, ragged and uncombed, she had one toy, a tiny violin.

An old soldier was the liveliest one of the group. For the privilege of sleeping on the cold floor of this shack, he was willing to provide food for the family from his meager pension. In this way, four were kept alive in a ten by twelve room.

Charity existed between neighbors in Jockey Alley. When illness struck, the word passed along the row and everyone tried to outdo each other with acts of kindness. One would bring a basin of water and a scrap of laundry soap. Another would bring a rusty tin cup full of milk made from a combination of the remains of condensed milk left in tin cans and thrown out by someone with kitchen scraps into slop cans back of residences.

These few drops of condensed milk with their full quota of bacteria were poured into a cup which was then filled with water. The mixture looked like milk, at least, and to the parched throat that had not known the real article for many months it served as a treat, even though it might hasten death that was coming anyhow. Two dollars a month was charged for one little room in Jockey Alley.

Terre Haute certainly had its slum areas seventy years ago. Miss Welding, local charity worker, found a 55-year-old man in a shanty boat back of Sand Burr Hollow north on the river. His 14-year-old son was lying by his side as seriously ill as his father.

The father formerly having been a painter, the pair hunted muskrats (river rats), selling their pelts for 25 cents each. The meat was sold to the inhabitants of Taylorville.

Miss Welding asked for donations of provisions for the unfortunates, and help in having the houseboat floated down river to their relatives in Kentucky.

Terre Haute even had an underground dance hall in those days. Dora Sexton's Saloon and rooming house, located at Third and Cherry streets, was raided after a big brawl and 14 persons were arrested. Two weeks earlier there had been a cutting incident, and the proprietor was charged with renting rooms for immoral purposes.

Juvenile crime was in the news then as now. Two brothers, Harry and Amos Carr, ages 12 and 19 years, were arrested when they were caught selling to a junk dealer the bronze tablets from the tombstone erected by the U. S. government in Woodlawn Cemetery honoring the Confederate soldiers who died in Terre Haute's military prison [illegible] the Civil War.

Taxes were lower then

Fosgit a first in records of 'Spencer's Subdivision'

Ts OCT 15 1978

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Most of the abstract records for real estate in our neighborhood probably begin with the assignment of a Bounty Land Warrant for 320 acres of land issued to Silas Fosgit, "a former private in the Corps of Canadian Volunteers commanded by Lieut. Col. Joseph Wilcox, deceased, lately in the service of the U.S.A."

According to the Act of Congress passed March 5, 1816, bounties in land and extra pay were to be given to certain Canadian Volunteers in the Indiana Territory.

Fosgit, also spelled "Fosgate", received his land patent dated Oct. 26, 1816, and signed by President James Madison Part of this land, 160 acres, was described as the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 12 North, Range 9 West.

In 1830, William McFadden, tax collector for the State of Indiana, collected nearly five dollars for the property from James Farrington. Two years later, James and his wife, Harriet (Ewing) Farrington, signed a quit claim for $216, and the property passed to William H. Spencer, Sr. The 320 acres cost him $500. He died in January, 1851. The real estate became known as "Spencer's Subdivision."

In 1857, the attorney for his heirs, Wm. H. Spencer Jr., Joseph Spencer and Fannie A. Spencer, sued William C. French, Minerva French and Anna Fosgit for quiet title. William C. French died March 17, 1857, and court proceedings continued.

In 1863, Laura Spencer, guardian and mother of Fannie Spencer, one of the minor heirs of Wm. H. Spencer Sr., said her daughter was the owner of one-third of the land. This record was in Vigo County Common Pleas Court.

C. E. Hosford was appointed to sell the land, and on Aug. 20, 1864, Spencer's Subdivision was created to be sold for $10,560. Stretching from Seventh to Thirteenth streets, and from Eighth Avenue to Maple Avenue, it contained 25 odd-shaped lots because of Lafayette Road running diagonally through the tract.

Joseph and Laura Spencer, owners, gave power of attorney to Wm. H. Spencer Jr., attorney, to sell parcels of subdivided land, and in August, 1864, Lot No. 11, located at the southeast corner of Seventh and Maple, approximately two blocks square, was sold to Benjamin F. Tuttle for $2,250.

Next, Fanny A. Fleurot, wife of Gabriel G. Fleurot, authorized her New York attorney to sell the land in December, 1872.

In 1889, the abstract explained that Fannie A. Fleurot was formerly Fannie A. Spencer, the heir of Laura and Joseph Spencer, both deceased. Her attorney attested that he was well acquainted with the family of William H. Spencer,Sr., who formerly owned the land,and had been business agent for the family since 1850. Spencer had died intestate on Jan. 11, 1851, leaving a widow, Laura, and three children, Wm. H. Jr., Joseph and Fannie. Laura remained a widow and died Oct. 22, 1864, leaving the children.

Joseph, unmarried, died in 1867 in Africa. Wm. H. Jr. and his wife died in New York soon after Joseph's death. The only survivor, Fannie, had married Fleurot in 1864.

The new owner of Lot No. 11, Benjamin F. Tuttle and his wife, Mary Alice, sold the land in 1869 to John Collett, unmarried, for $2,750.

Containing ten acres, more or less, Lot No. 11 was sold by Collett for $6,500 in June, 1873, to Isaac Fechheimer. In 1875, the land was leased for half the crop to be raised by Adam Isslar.

In 1880, Fechheimer's wife, Mollie, was mentioned Tillie Feschheimer was mentioned in the abstract in 1882, but the relationship was not stated.

Platted in 1886 as Fechheimer's Subdivision, Lot. No. 11 included the area between Seventh and Eighth streets, from Linden north to Maple Avenue, which contained 31 lots.

A mortgage on the property described it as "situated on the west side of Eighth street and being known, numbered and designated as Lot. No. 28 in Fechheimer's corrected subdivision."

Fechheimer was a director in the newly formed Terre Haute Building Loan Fund & Savings Association. Other officers were Francis V. Bichowsky, president; E. V. Debs, vice-president: H. F. Schmidt, financial secretary; Louis Finkbiner, treasurer; F. O. Froeb, recording secretary, and Louis O. Seeberger, director.

On Oct. 31, 1889, Fechheimer sold Lot 28 to Max and Emil Meyers for $5,500. The next year, they in turn sold it to Jacob C. Kolsem for $6,300.

In 1895, Jacob and his wife, Mary F. (Stakeman) Kolsem, sold the land for $7,000 to Edward Page Fairbanks and George Maier.

A. Conover was the contractor for the improvement of North Eighth street from Lafayette Avenue to Maple Avenue.

E. P. Fairbanks, his wife, Helen, George Maier, and his wife, the former Ida Fechheimer, sold Lot 28 in October, 1899, to Liberty Washington Loser and his wife, Grace A., for $400.

The Losers built the frame house now known as 2032 N. 8th St., and it remained their home until Loser's widow sold the property after his death in 1942.

Continued—

Robert M. and Ruth S. Cheek became the owners in 1945, then Cecil Deal for a brief period, succeeded by Alan K. Schmidt, former plant manager for American Can Company, in 1953, and the Clarks in 1960.

A well-built, sturdy, comfortable home, it has recently undergone some restoration work to correct mistakes made by former owners with good intentions but little knowledge of proper remodeling.

Next Sunday's column will continue the interesting saga of the property near Collett Park and its former owners.

TS SEP 30 1979

Growth marked the late 19th Century in Terre Haute

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

& ~~Clark, Dorothy J.~~
~~History (J.71)~~

In the years between Appomattox and the turn of the century, the America of our ancestors really began to take shape. It was a time of rapid change. Among the spectacular changes were the growth of population, the growth of industry and the rise of big business.

Industrialization brought startling changes in ways of living. People began to have more comforts and more leisure. More Americans went to high school and to college.

The expansion of manufacturing and trade led to a remarkable growth of cities. The cities drew many of their people from the farms. They also attracted millions of immigrants from Europe. By the end of the century, about 14 percent of the total population was foreign born. Terre Haute had a great percentage of German born citizens at that time.

In the 1880s, our streets were either badly paved or not paved at all. Toward the end of the century, brick, asphalt and macadam pavement began to replace cobblestones and mud.

The electric street railway replaced the horse and mule drawn street cars. Street lighting was improved, and fire protection was strengthened.

New comforts and conveniences appeared before the advent of the Gay Nineties. Gas and even electric lighting was replacing kerosene lamps. Hot-air furnaces were replacing the heating stoves. Telephones were found in many homes.

Women had so much more leisure time due to the sewing machine, commercial launderies, and bakeries that by 1890 there were so many women's clubs that a national organization, the General Federation of Women's Club, was formed to link them together.

Increased leisure time caused the amusement business to expand. In the 1890s the variety, or vaudeville, show with its succession of songs, dances, acrobatic stunts, trained animal acts, and the like, became very popular. Musical plays and operettas also drew large audiences.

In the 1890s, there were about forty or more different circuses touring the United States. The Amusement Park was popular for holiday outings. Most such parks were sponsored by trolley car companies (as was Harrison Park located north of Collett Park and Butternut Hill). To build up passenger fares they gave them a place to go.

Bicycling became such a popular fad that by 1893 a million bicycles were in use.

By 1850 the classical style of architecture had gone out of fashion. More elaborate styles came in. Buildings were decorated with turrets, pinnacles, gables, and all sorts of ornamental geegaws. Even business structures, such as railroad stations and stores, were often decorated without regard for their purpose.

Examples of such architecture are to be found in an 1889 publication "Terre Haute Illustrated." Pictured in this nine-part local product were eight churches, ten public buildings, six schools, two orphanages, one old ladies home, two industries and 16 residences.

St. Stephens, Lutheran, Centenary M.E. and Central Presbyterian look very much as they did in 1889. The other four have been moved to new locations. The old Universalist Church at 119 N. Eighth St. is now the site of the Hulman Civic University Center. The Congregational Church was where the former Deming Hotel now stands on the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry, while the First Baptist Church was located then on the northwest corner of what is now part of the A.P.& S. Clinic parking lot. St. Patrick's Church in 1889 was farther west on Poplar Street than the new church which was built later.

Naylor's Opera House was on the northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash; City Market House, northwest corner Fourth and Walnut; St. Anthony's Hospital, old site of Terre Haute Regional Hospital at Sixth and College; Deming Block, northeast corner Sixth and Wabash; and National House, southwest corner Sixth and Wabash.

Also, the County Jail, northeast corner Water and Ohio; McKeen Block, 644 to 682 Wabash Ave., now a parking lot; Government Building or Post Office, Seventh and Cherry, but the building before the present one was built there; Headquarters of the Fire Department, still at 28 S. Ninth, but now extensively remodeled; and the Terre Haute House, the building before this present one was built.

Schools included in the Terre Haute Illustrated for 1889 were: Rose Polytechnic Institute, which became Gerstmeyer High School, and is now demolished; the High School, later known as Wiley High School, which is gone and the site of the new Vigo County Library; St. Benedict's German Catholic School; City School No. 3, 930 S. Third St., the former abandoned Crawford School; Coates College, 429 Osborne, established in 1885; and Indiana State Normal School.

The orphanages were the St. Ann's Orphan Asylum for girls on the northeast corner of Thirteenth and Fifth Avenue, and the Rose Orphan's Home, northeast corner of Twenty-fifth Street and the National Road, now the K-Mart parking lot.

The Home for Old Ladies, 1016 N. Sixth St., is long gone and the site of a new Housing Project. The Clift, Williams and Company Works was pictured, along with Phoenix Foundry, on Ninth near the Union Depot.

Photographs of residences included those of Harry J. Baker, lawyer, 1100 S. Sixth; Edward Gilbert, vice president and treasurer of Phoenix, 23 Gilbert Place; Frank McKeen, 655 Cherry St.; H. H. Boudinot, U. S. Commissioner; Theo. Hudnut, president of the Hudnut Milling Co., 627 Cherry St., and William Armstrong, manufacturer of surgical instruments, northeast corner of Center and Sycamore streets.

Also, Robert Andrew, secretrary-treasurer of the Lancaster Block Coal Co., 1434 Chestnut St.; Col. R. W. Thmompson, 1214 S. Sixth St.; Crawford Fairbanks, president Terre Haute Distilling Co., 402 S. Sixth St.; William R. McKeen, 221 S. Sixth St.; A. J. Crawford, president Wabash Iron Company, 405 S. Sixth St.; David W. Henry, 1200 S. Sixth St.; John N. Whonhart, contractor, 1101 S. Seventh St.; Jacob A. Parker, proprietor of the Eagle Iron Works, 903 S. Sixth St.; A. Arnold, clothier, 330 S. Sixth St., and James P. Crawford, secretary-treasurer, Wabash Iron Company, 709 S. Sixth St.

Two distinct eras in Terre Haute's past outlined

Historically Speaking

~~History (T.H.)~~

By Dorothy Clark

Ts AUG 1 0 1980

There are at least two distinct eras in early Terre Haute history — the first from 1816 to 1850, the years of the stagecoach, flat-boat and canal boat, and from 1851 up to 1889, when the railroads were projected and built.

The National Road was projected to Terre Haute in 1823, and by 1832 Terre Haute had 600 people. This was one of the most interesting periods of its history. There was little of the rough element peculiar to many frontier settlements. Among its people were men and women of education and refinement and the social life was very pleasant.

A study of the files of the old newspapers presents an inviting picture of hospitality and gayiety which existed when log houses were the prevailing style and a little extra style was put on by boarding over the logs and painting the roofs red.

Most trying era in the city's history was after 1835 and the financial depression. Taxes were 13¼ cents to 50 cents per 100 acres of land.

The first canal boat arrived in Terre Haute in 1849, a great event, and the local newspaper indulged in glowing prophecies of our glorious future, when the river and canal would be swarming with steamers and packets, and great factories driven by water power would be seen on every side.

Merchants advertised with pride that their goods had arrived in only 20 days from New York. The canal basin near Second and Chestnut streets, where the packets came in, was a popular resort. It was quite a sight to see the neat boats float into dock after the little extra spurt around the bend, just for style. But canal boats were a little slow for 1850, and the Wabash and Erie Canal had but a brief history, or at least that section near Terre Haute, for in 1851 its successful rival, the railroad, was building.

The first movement to secure a railroad was for one between this city and Evansville, just 20 years before the initial road of the Terre Haute & Richmond was opened for travel in 1852. The fare to Indianapolis was $2. With this railroad and the receipt of the first shipment of five cars of coal in 1851, began the second era of Terre Haute's history.

Neither the National Road nor the canal fulfilled expectations in their effect upon the city's prosperity although they were included in it. From 1816 to 1852, 36 years, was the first era; from 1852 to the close of 1888, 36 years, was the second era; from January, 1889, when drills began to sink towards petroleum, dates the third era, and the spouting of the great oil well in May of that year was heralded as the beginning of untold prosperity.

Coates College

In 1885, Mrs. Jane P. Coates of Greencastle, Ind., gave $11,500 to buy the beautiful property on Strawberry Hill, once known as the Gookins estate, and to establish a college for the higher education of women, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church.

Some addition was made to the endowment, and the school opened with Dr. L. G. Hay of Indianapolis as president and financial agent. He was succeeded by John Mason Duncan, an

(over)

educator of much experience and executive ability.

Amusements are an important feature in the life of Terre Haute. Back in the 1860s, the only room for entertainments was the large basement of the city school on Fourth Street. Among the celebrities appearing there were Gottschalk and Artemus Ward.

Later a frame building which served as St. Stephen's Church in the 1880s was fitted up for amusement purposes. The Black Swan was the greatest celebrity who appeared there.

In 1864, Dowling Hall was built. It cost $60,000 in that day of high prices. On its stage appeared John B. Gough, Wendell Phillips, Josh Billings, Bayard Taylor, Artemus Ward, Schyler Colfax, Edwin Forrest, Parepa, and many other famous lecturers, actors and singers.

After the opening of the Naylor Opera House, Terre Haute was visited by every amusement combination which travels, with very few exceptions. None were too expensive to draw large audiences, so that Terre Haute had the reputation of being one of the best show towns in the country.

Tallow candles and lard oil lamps gave way to gas lights in 1856. Kerosene lamps were in use when electric lights were introduced. Now we've come full circle again, and candles are very much in vogue again and sales booming.

The canal is gone, river traffic is gone, railroads are dwindling, the National Road is secondary now to Interstate 70, but people from all over the Wabash Valley drive to Terre Haute to shop, eat, and see the thriving and multiplying movie houses and events at Hulman Civic University Center, the sports-oriented places like bowling alleys, tennis, golf, racquet and skating rinks. When and what will be Terre Haute's next era?

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Ts DEC 14 1980

History (T.H.)

How terre haute along the Wabash became Terre Haute

In 1816, the plat map of Terre Haute shows that the town was bounded on the north by Eagle, east by Fifth, south by Swan and west by Water. It comprised 35 blocks, one of which was reserved as a public square, one-fourth of one was marked "reserve for church," and one-fourth of another was marked "reserve for seminary."

The balance was divided into 268 lots known as in-lots. The streets in general are 65 feet wide, except Third Street (originally Market) which is 99 feet, and Water, First, Second and Wabash streets (afterwards Main, now Wabash Avenue) and Ohio Street, which are 81 feet, six and a half inches wide.

William Hoggatt was the surveyor who laid out the original town. Not only that, but he selected the site. He was employed by the Terre Haute Land Company to find the best location on the company's land line along the Wabash River.

A resident of Orange County, Ind., Hoggatt was a civil engineer and county clerk when requested to come here and help locate the new town. James Boord was his assistant, and in his later years told how this particular spot became Terre Haute.

Hoggatt's choice

Mr. Hoggatt rode over the ground between Fort Harrison and Old Terre Haute, and then made his selection. When Jonathan Lindley, one of the proprietors of the land company, arrived here, Hoggatt explained his choice.

Lindley, a Quaker, said to his engineer, "William, don't thee think that thee has made a mistake? Don't thee think that thee should have selected Old Terre Haute or Fort Harrison?"

Hoggatt explained his reasons, showing the Quaker that while Fort Harrison was a beautiful place, the river takes a bend there to the west, the bottom runs out below the Fort, and therefore it was not a good place to build a town.

While Old Terre Haute stands on a high bluff, there again the river bends to the west, and the bottom encroaches on the east side. But where he had selected, the river runs straight, the land is high, and rises from the river. It was a beautiful place for a town, Hoggatt believed, and then he told Lindley if it was built where he selected, it would some day be a great city.

'Thee should know'

"Well, well," said the Quaker, "William, thee is an engineer and thee should know," and thus it was settled. William Hoggatt and Jonathan Lindley were indeed right. After 164 years, Terre Haute is certainly a great city.

What became of James Boord? He lived with William Hoggatt, who was a surveyor and county clerk in Orange County, and arrived here two days after Hoggatt on his first trip.

Boord settled in Terre Haute in 1823, and in the latter part of his life returned to Corydon. He often returned here to see old friends, and in 1885 was interviewed at an Old Settlers' Meeting.

Main lots for $25

According to Boord, the town in 1823 "was very scattered. Beyond Third and Main streets there were very few buildings. Lots could be bought on Main Street, east of Third, for $25 and $40, and were a drug on the market at that price."

"The first court house was built 1822-23, and the county did not have the money to pay the carpenter, and he took a mechanic's lien on it. It was sold at sheriff's sale, and the county bid it in," Boord said.

In his words, " when the town was laid out, the country west was very wild...the whole territory was covered with a heavy growth of forest timber."

Entertaining city ordinances of 1800s

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Ts JAN 4 1981

Early city ordinances make entertaining reading now and give insights into the city's problems of over a century ago, but some of them can still be enforced.

On Aug. 4, 1868, it was decided that it was unlawful to have a bonfire within the city. "No persons shall discharge a cannon, swivel, anvil, gun or other firearm within the city limits. No person shall set off or discharge a rocket, Roman candle, firecracker, squib or other fireworks within the city limits. No person shall throw any fireball, firebrand, or other ignited substances, etc."

However, it was decided that the mayor or any two councilmen might authorize the use of the cannon, and four holidays were designated when these ordinances concerning use of fireworks would not apply.

The holidays were the Fourth of July, Christmas Day, Feb. 22 (George Washington's birthday for those who have forgotten), and Jan. 8, the commemoration of the Battle of New Orleans, the last battle of the War of 1812, and its hero, Andrew Jackson, and known as Jackson Day.

Gambling Curbed

As early as Sept. 17, 1855, the city fathers had to take steps to curb gambling..."all buildings, sheds, cellars, booths or other place within the corporate limits, used or occupied for the purpose of gaming, or in which games of hazard may be played for money, or other articles of property of value, are hereby declared to be public nuisances and owners shall be fined $50 and costs."

Types of gambling mentioned were A.B.C., faro-bank, roulette, equality, billiard table or tables, nine or ten pin alley, bowling saloon, cards, chucker-luck or any other.

Gunpowder Banned

Another interesting ordinance showing how far the city has progressed was enacted in May, 1870. It provided that "it shall not be lawful for any person to keep on hand, in any store or building, shed, etc., within the city, not more than 25 lbs. of gunpowder or blasting powder."

These were to be kept in the canisters, and not to be sold or handled after candles, lamps or the gas were lighted after nightfall. No more than two barrels of benzine might be kept on hand; not more than five barrels of coal oil, petroleum or turpentine might be kept on hand; only 25 lbs. of guncotton was allowed, and nitroglycerin was absolutely forbidden within the city limits.

The first Common Council had the power to direct the location of tallow chandleries and soap factories. In March, 1870, it was made unlawful for anyone to locate or erect such enterprises within the city limits or even within two miles of town. It seems these businesses were considered "noxious" and detrimental to health and welfare.

The first poll tax of Terre Haute was "not to exceed 50 cents on each male inhabitant, sane and not a pauper, of the age of 21 years and not exceeding 50 years."

Dogs were taxed $2 and female dogs $5. A person could be fined $3 and costs for feeding any horse, cow, hog or other domestic animal on any street or sidewalk within the city.

Railroad Ordinances

On Sept. 7, 1869, there was an ordinance approved concerning trains which is still needed today. It provided that "no locomotive engine, railroad passenger car or freight car shall be drawn, propelled or run upon or along any railroad track within said city at a greater rate of speed than five miles per hour...cars not to stop on any street more than five miles within the city...if longer than that, the train was to be uncoupled and the street vacated."

The ordinance went on to rule that "no railroad company shall cause or allow the whistle of any locomotive engine to be sounded within the city, as may be absolutely necessary to prevent injury to persons... the bell of each engine shall be rung continually while running in said city."

Velocipede Rules

In 1869 it became necessary to pass an ordinance making it unlawful for any person to ride a velocipede, an early form of bicycle, on the sidewalks on Wabash street from Second to 10th street; on Ohio from Second to Ninth streets; Second, Fifth and Sixth from Cherry to Ohio excepting the north side of Cherry; Third to Fifth on Walnut; Third and Fourth from Cherry to Poplar excluding the north side of Cherry and the south side of Poplar.

On other city streets or sidewalks, velocipede riders were to go no faster than a walk and were to give way to pedestrians. Bike riders breaking the law were fined $10 to $20. This was published in the Terre Haute Journal and the Wabash Express.

Historically Speaking

It's difficult to picture city in stagecoach days...

Vally Ts 12-20-81

By DOROTHY CLARK
Tribune-Star Writer

It's difficult to picture Terre Haute in stagecoach days, but the most colorful descriptions of the early 1850s always tell of the old road houses.

These were not the roadhouses or speakeasies of prohibiton days, but respectable houses of entertainment, for dancing parties, good food and drink, and a night's lodging for weary travelers and their horses.

There was Watton Cottage four miles north on the Lafayette Road.

The Redford House stood on the west side about where Eighth Street and Lafayette Avenue is now. Across the road east and opposite the Redford place was one of Terre Haute's famous race tracks.

The Four Mile House was east of town on the National Road. The National Road House was on Wabash Avenue west of 11th Street, on the south side of the street and well out in the country in the early 1850s.

After the first heavy snowfall and winter had really set in, one could expect good sleighing. Everybody with a horse also had a sleigh, and the young men of the town made great sleighs drawn by four horses.

Most of these extra large sleighs held from 20 to 30 people and were used to take parties to the roadhouses for dancing and other play parties. One notable sleigh was built by Cone & Weatherwax, a firm of young carpenters. The bed of this sleigh was 30 feet long and rested on two sets of runners. The bed was made of twisted rye straw, with ropes two inches in diameter. These ropes were woven in and out between upright stakes set in stringers fastened to the runners. The flexible bed was filled with straw.

The front and rear of the bed must have been 10 feet high and curved down to about six feet high in the center of the sides of the body of the sleigh. On each side of the driver's seat were beautifully carved swan's heads with long curved necks.

There was a door in the rear like the door of an omnibus, and when this was closed no wind could reach the sleigh-riders. This sleigh could hold 50 people, and with six horses driven by Si Bullard, Terre Haute's most accomplished and noted stage driver, was a sight worth seeing.

The taverns or inns of the town were the Buntin House on the east side of south Third Street between Ohio and Walnut, in its time the leading hostelry of the town. It was first opened by a Frenchman named Levy in 1851 who called it the City Hotel. Later a man named Brown became the landlord and it was known as Brown's Hotel.

Brown was succeeded by T. C. Buntin, the most popular landlord the town ever had, and it became the Buntin House for 50 years, and long after Buntin had ceased to be its landlord.

Here 15 to 20 stagecoaches drawn by four horses would round up daily and disgorge their loads of humanity. They always came in on the run, whips cracking and bugles blowing.

The Indian Tavern was located on the southeast corner of First and Wabash. This was first known as the Eagle and Lion. The Clark House was on the northwest corner of First and Ohio. The Stewart House was on the west side of north Second Street about 100 feet north of Wabash.

The Green Tree was at the southeast corner of Second and Cherry, and the Broadway at the northeast corner of Third and Cherry. The White Hall stood at the southeast corner of Third and Mulberry, and the Eagle at the northeast corner. The Pavillion occupied the northeast corner of Fifth and Cherry.

Dayton Topping had an "Inn" at the southwest corner of Fourth and Wabash, and the Prairie House, forerunner of the Terre Haute House, stood at the northeast corner of Seventh and Wabash.

The old Pork House Theater was on the west side of the alley, on the south side of Mulberry, between Second and Third streets.

Only one building is still standing 130 odd years after the stage coach days. The Terre Haute Branch of the State Bank building between Second and Third streets on the south side of Ohio Street, middle of the square, is now known as Memorial Hall and is faithfully kept up by the United Veterans Council.

There are no known photographs or drawings of the old yellow covered bridge across Lost Creek on the National Road. It was located about a quarter mile east of the present city park, formerly the Gilbert residence, then named Steeg Park after the mayor at the time it became city property, then Hobo Park (for obvious reasons) and more recently Gilbert Park.

The double bridge was built entirely of wood, the frame being put together with wooden pins and the floor held down by stringers secured by wooden pins. The only iron in the structure was the nails in the roof and weather boarding on the sides. The bridge rested on beautifully cut and dressed stone and was built by the federal government as were all the bridges along the National Road.

Present day readers must be reminded that until Lost Creek was rechanneled farther north and east, it did cross east Wabash Avenue about 19th Street after coming through what is now Edgewood Grove.

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BETWEEN THE LINES

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES YOU READ ABOUT CELEBRITIES

By Josie

Q. *There was such a fuss about Cyndy Garvey (baseball player Steve's ex) leaving her co-host role on TV. Is she going to try again? L. Shelley, Altadena, Calif.*

A. At this point, no. She's busy settling her daughters into their New York schools and hanging out with her new amour, composer Marvin Hamlisch. Viewers and critics weren't the only ones not impressed with her interviewing skills on "A.M. Los Angeles." Baseball player Jim Palmer guested on the show and came away with a bad impression. "She couldn't think of anything to ask me," he says, "which is pretty weird since she'd been married to Steve all those years and should have known something — anything — about baseball." As for her image as a self-made star, he is even more vitriolic. "She was a pretty little blond stewardess when Steve met her," says Palmer. "If it weren't for Garvey, she wouldn't be anywhere at all."

STAR KIDS — The son of a famous swashbuckling star of the '40s and '50s and the daughter of a famous movie-making couple are studying acting — and each other — in NYC. Both have been approached for movie roles (he was wanted for "Blue Lagoon"), but are waiting until they feel they're ready to make that big step. Close friends are worried that each will burn out with drug problems before they ever find stardom.

Q. *You read all the time that stars stay the same as they were before they were famous and don't get caught up in all the Hollywood stuff. How true is that? Larry S., Bessemer, Ala.*

A. It depends on how they've structured their lives to avoid it. The classic example is Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, who have superstar careers and have been known to throw their weight around from time to time, but have never gone on full-blown star trips. The reason, according to Woodward, "is because we've always lived in the East. We've stayed in California for periods of time, but never actually lived there. In Connecticut, no one seems to care who we are." Their daughters (his two from a previous marriage, and their three) are also good levelers. "They won't tolerate any puffed egos," she says.

On the other side, however, reports are starting about the changes in attitude of country star Barbara Mandrell. Mandrell has recently issued an edict that no female stars taller than she are to appear on her show, which is a pickle, indeed, since she's a mere five-footer. She doesn't want to be upstaged by a woman. You'll notice that tall male guests will continue to appear.

Q. *I love the "Dukes of Hazzard" and read that they're doing an album. Will Waylon Jennings be on it? J. Coffey, Port Allen, La.*

A. No, and you can bet Jennings is pretty teed-off about it. The singer has worked closely with the show, developing more than just the theme song — characters, stories, etc. But when the company decided to issue an album, they decided to go with a more well-known name, Johnny Cash, as the singer. This could sour Jennings' future association with the show

LITTLE SWEETHEART — One charming young movie and TV star, who works hard at maintaining a squeaky clean public image, has a private life that, as one Hollywood wag put it, "couldn't be told in print." Oh, those California kids.

Q. *We've heard a lot about Carrie Fisher, Debbie Reynolds' and Eddie Fisher's daughter, but didn't she have a brother? What's he doing? J. Randolph, Towson, Md.*

A. He's a minister, sort of. Todd Fisher has recently been "born again" and has opened a place of worship to pass the word along. His location is typically Hollywood, however — his mom's Rehearsal Studio complex in the San Fernando Valley.

Anything you'd like to know about prominent personalities? Write: "Between the Lines," Terre Haute Tribune-Star, 721 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, Ind., 47808. We regret we cannot answer any letters individually.

In earlier days...

Downtown centered around square

Valley

T s DEC 2 7 1981

By DOROTHY CLARK
Tribune-Star Writer

Downtown Terre Haute in pioneer days centered around the public square bounded by four wide streets, Market (now Third) and Second, Wabash and Ohio, with the wide open space of the courthouse yard and its hitching rack attracting the country trade.

The center of the square itself was occupied by the first little courthouse. This building was not only the civic center, it was used for more or less social purposes.

Here were held the preachings, meetings of Masonic and other lodges, lectures on morality, temperance, philosophy and kindred subjects, along with political speeches and elections.

The first issue of the Western Register in 1823 had a notice that Isaac Reed would preach at the courthouse on Sunday, July 27, 1823.

The issue of Aug. 27 announced the preaching there of the Rev. T. Scott, "tomorrow at early candle light."

The same paper told of a meeting of the Terre Haute Masonic Lodge to be held in the courthouse Sept. 8 to choose a proxy to represent them at Grand Lodge.

On Sept. 6, 1824, officers of the Vigo County Library were elected at the courthouse. Chosen were William C. Linton, president; James Farrington, Curtis Gilbert, William Clark, Nathaniel Huntington, D. H. Johnston, D. F. Durkee and George Hussey, trustees.

Around the square were the stores, the offices, the taverns, and in a few cases, the better residences.

Early transportation, mostly by the river, led to the merchandise and manufacturing concerns.

The Eagle and Lion tavern stood at the southeast corner of First and Wabash; the Clark House at the northeast corner of First and Ohio; the Buntin House in the middle of the block on the east side of Market, south of Ohio, and the Stewart House, originally named by its proprietor, Matthew Stewart, "Terre Haute Hotel," one door north of Wabash on the west side of Second.

Dr. Richard Blake's drugstore stood on the northwest corner of Second and Wabash. John D. Early's residence was on the east side of Second, north of Wabash, and the home of Lucius H. Scott, the first brick dwelling in Terre Haute built in 1824, was on the southwest corner of Market and Ohio, all very convenient to the center of town.

On the northwest corner of Third and Wabash was the Light Horse Harry tavern of Samuel McQuilkin. It contained nine well-furnished spacious and convenient rooms. On the premises were excellent stables, "and other convenient outhouses and an excellent well of water."

A little off the square was the boot and shoe factory of Michael Collins. Not a one-man plant, apparently, he advertised in the Western Register for "a sober and industrious cordwainer," and offered "liberal wages and constant employment." Most readers will need to consult a dictionary to understand just what the job entailed — "One who makes shoes from cordovan leather, a cobbler or shoemaker."

At the northwest corner of Second and Ohio was the store of Chauncey Rose, and in the same block, now occupied by City Hall, were some of the largest and best fitted stores of the town.

The west side of the square was a busy place when the farmers came to town and shopped at the stores of William C. Linton; Bonner, Reynolds and Early; Russell Ross and his sons; S. S. Collett; Robert McCabe, and Isaac Elston. At other times it was a good place to swap gossip, trade horses and idle away the hours.

On the north side of the square, Max Joseph opened his clothing store in 1857 and remained in different locations on Wabash Avenue for over a century, moving eastward as the town grew that way.

On the north side of Wabash and east of Joseph's were J.S. Tilton's furniture store; J.F. Keeler with his stock of indispensable lamps and oils, which had not yet wholly replaced candles; J.C. Yates, hats and caps; the Wabash Express in the rooms once occupied by the Western Register, Terre Haute's first newspaper; and James Farrington's residence at the corner of Third and Market streets.

On the east side of Third, south of Wabash, were, first in importance, the town hall, burned and replaced later by the temporary courthouse after the original one had become so dilapidated as to be unsafe as well as overcrowded and compelled to share quarters in the Town Hall.

Groceries occupied a lot of the space also, for in those days a grocery handled as little groceries as the modern drugstore handles drugs, and the term designates a liquor store as often as a place to purchase food.

West of the bank (Memorial Hall now) were a number of small buildings occupied by groceries and other small stores, with Eli Lackey at the corner of Second.

On the west side of Second whose definite location is uncertain were Hugh Heyroth's cigar factory, Potwin and Judd's Hardware Store and Horatio Keyes' carriage factory. It soon outgrew its quarters and later moved way out in the country to 13th and Plum to take on the manufacturing of wheels and become one of the largest industries in town.

Not all the business houses were on the square, of course, but they were close by. Bement and Company were at the northeast corner of First and Wabash. This building's walls were said to contain the earliest bricks made in Terre Haute.

To the east on the north side was the business of G. F. and C.C. Smith who sold hardware, tinware and stoves, and Alex McGregor, who was in the hardware business before he bought the distillery in which he made his fortune when the tax was put on whiskey during the Civil War. Whether he saw what was to come or not, he had at the time an immense stock in his warehouses and profited by it.

It was his father-in-law, Matthew Stewart, who bought the 20-foot frontage on Wabash to afford access to his Stewart House. He paid Chauncey Warren $2,000 for the property, so it can be presumed to have a good-sized building already on it. It was this building that McGregor used. Two weeks earlier he had sold McGregor a small piece of the hotel lot 10 by 30 feet for $90.

On the south side of Wabash at First Street was the early tavern stand with another farther west on the north side. Stewart's was on Second, and there were two others on Cherry.

Then at the corner of Third and Cherry stood the row of brick buildings facing on Third, with the pioneer undertaker, Isaac Ball, occupying a full building with his cabinet and coffin shop.

W NEWCOMERS— Pictured are new members of the Newcomers b. From left to right in the front row are Julie Richards, Connie ssa, Betty Crawford and Kathy Beckley. In the back row, from left ight, are Gwen Metternich, Olga Rutkowski, Peggy Kayser, Esther vk and Kathy Cox.

W MEMBERS— Pictured are new members of the Newcomers Club hered at a recent new member coffee. Seated on the footstool, from , are Carole Norris and Linda Johnson. Seated in the rear, from left ight, are Rebecca Graves, Alta Linnenburger, Jean Karr, Laura er, Debbie Miller, Charlene Gabbard and Terrylee Turnipseed.

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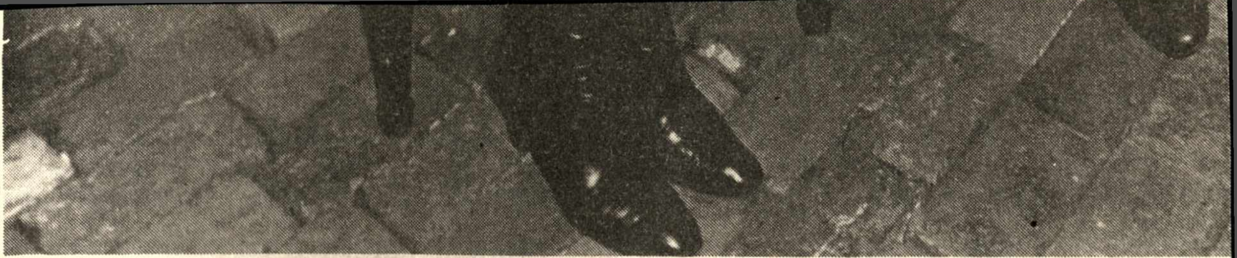


NEW OFFICERS— The Women Realtors Council recently elected new officers. Seated from the left are Ann Lawyer, vice president; and Pat Anslinger, president. Standing from left are Betty Sheets, treasurer; and Barbara Denny, secretary.

TRUST RECIPIENTS— Pictured are recipients of funds from the Talley Trust of the Terre Haute First National Bank. Shown are, from left to right, King Fasig, senior vice president and trust officer; Karen Davies, YWCA; Rev. Walter Smith, Centnary United Methodist Church; Tom Jones, YMCA; and Robert Weathers, Union Hospital.

Historically speaking

Valley

Ts OCT 3 1982

Celebrate autumn with historical tour

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Fall in Indiana is the most beautiful season of the year. The crisp sunny days and frosty nights soon turn the trees into a riot of color. This is a favorite time to get in the family car on weekends and drive out to see the countryside.

In addition to seeing beautiful scenery, it's fun to plan an historical tour and see some of our local points of interest. There used to be a favorite expression, "You can't get there from here," and all routing directions began at the county courthouse.

To get in the proper mood, try to arrive at the Vigo County Courthouse before the hour (any hour) to hear the melodious notes of the Colonel Francis Vigo bell hanging in the lofty tower. This bell was a gift from Col. Vigo, for whom our county was named.

Drive north on Second Street from the Courthouse. Here, in the low level, was one of the turning basins for the boats of the Wabash and Erie Canal of the 1850s. Turn west at Chestnut Street to First Street, then north to Sycamore Street. Enter the parking lot of the Pillsbury Plant on your left. You are now on the site of the Old Indian Orchard Burying Ground where many of our very first citizens were buried on the banks of the Wabash river. Where the Terre Haute Water Works is now located was where the Indian village was located before Terre Haute was established in 1816.

Go east on Sycamore to Third Street, and turn north to Locust Street, the former site of Sibleytown. On the southwest corner was the little brick Sibley School House built in 1851. Opposite it on the southeast corner was the Pest House for those afflicted with smallpox or other epidemic diseases.

Continue north on Third to Woodlawn Cemetery, opened in 1839, the oldest city cemetery. Veterans of all the wars, Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, Korean and Vietnam conflicts, are buried here.

Drive in the gate, turn left to the circle, and see the monument erected by the federal government to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who died while being held prisoner here during the Civil War. Nearby is the Cruft family plot of a local hero and a general of the Northern Army.

Leaving Woodlawn Cemetery, turn north on Third Street to Maple Avenue, and east on Maple to North Seventh Street. North of Maple and west of Seventh was the site of Camp Vigo, used during Civil War days for training new recruits. Earlier a fairgrounds had been located here also. Collett Park east of Seventh and Maple is over 20 acres and the city's oldest park.

Proceed north on Seventh to Fort Harrison Road and turn left (west) a short distance and enter the grounds of the Elks Club, the site of Fort Harrison built in 1811 and defended against the Indians in 1812. Read the metal highway markers for further information. A bronze tablet placed on a large stone boulder in 1916 commemorates the 100th anniversary of the famous battle. Another large marker tells the story of Fort Harrison Cemetery — oldest cemetery in Vigo County at the south edge of the Elks' property.

While here, look south down the river and try to imagine the arrival of the flatboats of the pioneers with their families and all their belongings. Try to image how the fort might have looked in those early days.

Here, too, you can see the remains of the Wabash and Erie Canal and the towpath used in the 1850s and 1860s — a slow but pleasant way to travel using only horsepower.

Leaving Fort Harrison, go east on Fort Harrison Road to North 13th Street, turn north and drive to the end of the pavement. Continue north on the gravel road — and the old Durkee Ferry Road which led from the river ferry at Tecumseh on the west side of the Wabash to Markle's Mill on Otter Creek.

After obtaining permission from the property owner, walk a short distance from the distinct bend in the road down to the river landing. The house stands on a knoll where the men were buried who were killed by the Indians at Fort Harrison.

Retrace the route back to the pavement and turn left (east) on County Road 24W. Look for the old Denny family graveyard on the north side of the road. The name and 1812 date are on the entrance posts. He was a scout with William Henry Harrison and died at the fort but was reburied in the family plot after the family located permanently there.

When you reach the old U.S. Highway 41 at the intersection known as "Cider City," drive north past Roselawn Cemetery until you reach Stop 20. Here you can make your way back to civilization via Lafayette Road.

Note: The tour will be continued in next Sunday's column.

Camping grounds and monuments

Ts OCT 10 1982

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Last Sunday's column left the historical tour at Stop 20 north on the Lafayette Road.

Here you turn right (east) on 41E for one mile, left half a mile on 3N, right four-tenths of a mile on 49E to a marked post. To reach the old camping grounds of the Indians, it's necessary to get permission from the property owners before turning left on a field lane at the marked post. Interesting sites in this area include the camp site, the pottery hollow and Spring Creek where flint and Indian artifacts have been found, etc.

Retrace the route back to Road 3N, turn right on Road 21E, and just after crossing the C. & E.I. Railroad tracks, see the old Ostrander homestead (contemporaries of the Markle family) on the right side of the road down a private lane. This home is now owned by Mrs. Joseph Wagner. It is typical of the log cabin which was enlarged as the family grew, weatherboarded and converted into a comfortable farm home.

Continue on this county road to U.S. 41, turn south (left) to North Terre Haute, and at the intersection stoplight, turn left (east) on Park Avenue to the bridge over Otter Creek. Here are the remains of Markle's Mill built in 1816-17 by Major Abraham Markle and destroyed by fire in 1938.

Across the road is the Markle House built in 1848 by Frederick Markle, son of Major Markle, one of the original proprietors of the Town of Terre Haute in 1816. This historic landmark is owned by the Vigo County Historical Society. Here the stage coaches stopped for fresh horses, and before the Civil War, the house and mill were part of the Underground Railroad for escaping slaves. During the war, the basement of the house was used as temporary quarters for Confederate prisoners.

Drive back west on Park Avenue to Fruitridge Avenue and turn south past the Markle family graveyard with its very early tombstones.

Between Haythorn Avenue and the Fort Harrison Road, on the left side as you drive south on Fruitridge, you pass the two-story brick house, an excellent example of the type of farm house built in 1876 by the Myers family.

Continue on Fruitridge to its intersection with U.S. 40 at Wabash Avenue. Here was established a tollgate for early travel on the old National Road. Continue south on Fruitridge (County Road 28S) to the old Riley Road. At the Mount Pleasant Church corner this tour used to see Irishman's bridge over Honey Creek about three miles west of Riley, but it was moved to Fowler Park. It would be worth another trip to see the oldest covered bridge in Indiana — and the only covered bridge left in Vigo County. It was built in 1845.

North on the county road out of Riley you can see the old stone locks of the Wabash and Erie Canal. Lockport was the earlier nane of Riley. Returning to Terre Haute on the Riley Road, turn north on 25th Street to Poplar Street and drive west (left) as far as 1339 Poplar St.

At the time of this writing, the remains of the Preston House, the oldest dwelling house in the city when it suffered a damaging fire in 1979, were still evident. The house was built over a period of three years (1924-27) by Major George W. Dewees.

Continue west on Poplar Street to Third Street, then south to the stoplight at Farrington and turn right (west) to First and Farrington, the birthplace of Paul Dresser in 1857. The house was moved by the Vigo County Historical Society from 318 S. Second St. to preserve for posterity the home of a working man. Paul Dresser's song, "On The Banks of the Wabash, Far Away," was adopted as Indiana's state song in 1913.

Continuing along Dresser Drive, see the Chauncey Rose Memorial, the facade of the former post office with its fine view of the river. A short distance north, see the remains of the artesian well and mineral water fountain, the site of one of the city's famous bath houses.

At Ohio Street, turn east to Memorial Hall, oldest business building in the city, formerly a branch of the First State Bank erected in 1834. The building houses a few interesting war relics.

Across the street is the Vigo County Courthouse completed in 1885. Read the courthouse inscription, study the unusual architecture. Then study the Soldiers and Sailors monument on the northeast corner of the courthouse square. Inscriptions on four sides tell the story. Nearby is the bust and monument dedicated to Colonel Richard Wiggington Thompson and the old canon.

Between the courthouse and city hall, enjoy the fountain — then notice the nearby drinking fountain and monument dedicated to Claude L. Herbert, young Spanish-American War veteran who lost his life saving children in a downtown department store fire in 1898.

The tour ends here, but visits to the Historical Museum of the Wabash Valley, 1411 S. Sixth St., and to Early Wheels or Swope Art Gallery downtown could be incorporated in the tour.

Terre Haute stop along the way for English travelers

History - TH
Beste, J. Richard
+ Clark, Dorothy

TS JUN 19 1983

Historically speaking

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to Tribune-Star

One of the most quoted historical references was published in London in 1855. The author, J. Richard Beste, gave his travel journal a very long title, "The Wabash: or Adventures of an English Gentleman's Family in the Interior of America."

Leaving their eldest son in England to settle business matters, Beste and his wife traveled with their other 11 children (ranging in age from two to 19 years, six boys and six girls); the family lap dog, described as a cross between yellow cur and long-haired spaniel; six canary birds with cage and seed (the mother canary escaped); an African parrot in a tin traveling box; and a dormouse named "Sailor" with a hairless tail and his feed.

They spent 14 weeks of winter and spring, 1851, in Talence and Bordeaux, France, finally embarking from Havre on the voyage to New York. This young Catholic family shared the sailing ship "Kate Hunter" with 360 German emigrants going to Wisconsin from May 7 to June 2, 1851. The 16-year-old daughter became an invalid when the ship was becalmed for a week.

Not even a passport was needed to land and travel anyplace in the United States. The family set out for the Great Lakes and the Far West. While making final plans they were introduced to rocking chairs at the hotel where rooms cost $2.50 per day per person, all meals included. They hired an Irish chambermaid to go with them as a servant, but at the last moment she reneged.

Mama caught cold; the dormouse and one canary died; the dog was ailing; and there were 42 pieces of luggage to deal with. They took a river steamer north and the train to Buffalo. The dog died at Niagara Falls. The family was enthralled with the availability of ice for table and in drinks.

Beste was interested in the soil, trees, rail fences, log or frame houses. He was not impressed with the wheat crops, but admired the corn. He planned to go to Cincinnati, see all of Ohio, traverse Indiana and Illinois and live at St. Louis for some time and maybe see Iowa.

From Cincinnati they traveled on the Ohio River in a St. Louis mail steam packet at 15 miles an hour. They landed at Madison, Ind., because of cholera and ship fever from New Orleans. Beste did not like Madison, so they left on a train for Indianapolis. There was no way they could load Agnes, Kenelm, Louise, Lucy, Jonathan, Frank, Catharine, Ellen, Isabel, Constable, Bruno, Papa and Mama, the livestock and the 42 pieces of luggage on a stage coach, so two horses and a covered wagon were purchased.

They left Indianapolis for Terre Haute on June 27, 1851, and had fun jolting through town heading west, but the plank road turned fun into bruising torture. Volume I ends as the travelers arrive at the Prairie House in Terre Haute on June 29, 1851.

Local hotels were all full because engineers and their families were here planning railroad and other public works.

Since the Beste family needed medical attention regularly, he describes Dr. Read as "a middle-sized, light-haired man of about 40 years of age; with hollow cheeks and high American cheek bones; with long, lanky, brown hair that nearly hid his baldness; with a round, bright blue eye which he opened very wide and rolled about incessantly; with an inquisitive, intelligent good-humoured and very animated look...with his two hands in his breeches pockets, his shocking bad hat upon his head, and a quid of tobacco in his mouth, which he twisted incessantly from side to side, while he occasionally squirted the juice to the floor on the other side of the room...and a bright, good-humoured smile played over his plain but wide-awake features..."

Beste was found only mildly ill, but his 9-year-old Isabel was diagnosed as bloody dysentery.

It seems that the only day on which St. Mary-of-the-Woods convent school students were allowed off the school grounds was the Fourth of July. Beste told how the young ladies were dressed in white with white ribbons in the hair. The school charged 20 guineas a session. His general impressions of American women were very unflattering.

Beste decided to take his family on the Wabash and Erie Canal, so they sold the wagon and horses, visited the grave of their child buried in the Catholic graveyard (St. Joseph's), and left Terre Haute. When they sailed to England, three sons were left behind in school to return to England later. Nearly all the Beste children took up religious careers later in life.

Village struggled to grow pre-1840

TS 9-23-84

Historically speaking

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Those of us today who see historic landmarks in their modern surroundings find it hard to visualize how they appeared when they were new.

About 1823 the Rev. Isaac Reed, then located at Fort Harrison, wrote to Connecticut as follows: "The nearest minister to me of our order is Brother Proctor of Indianapolis. The next is south 70 miles; the next is southwest at Vincennes, 80 miles or over; and within these points there are 12 towns, i.e., places laid out for building lots; there are five Presbyterian churches, all without a regular supply. The society will see by this how great need there is of their help in these parts ... "

The first mention made of Terre Haute was in 1825 in the Rev. Reed's letters back home. This active missionary reported in November that "last night I preached at Terre Haute, but a few of the villagers attending; but two men, both professors of religion who lived eight miles distant, came to the meeting and returned the same night. I thought it seemed like hungering for the word."

In 1834, the year the Branch Bank of the State Bank of Indiana was built on Ohio Street opposite the courthouse square (now known as Memorial Hall).

The past 150 years have been kind to Memorial Hall in its checkered career. It survived easily use as a downtown bank. It was a residence, a piano store, a warehouse, a curiosity shop and then began its role as meeting place for war veterans. First it was the G.A.R. Hall of the Civil War veterans, then the meeting place of veterans of all the wars that have followed, up to the present time.

Presently under the care of the Memorial Hall Association, with limited funds from the United War Veterans Council, restoration and basic maintenance lags behind the needs for Terre Haute's oldest building. The future of the century-and-a-half-old historic landmark is in jeopardy.

In 1834, Terre Haute was 18 years old, a village of about 800 people although it was an incorporated town. Two years before there were 600 people, and in 1835, more than 1,200. The tide of emigration was beginning to flow rapidly westward.

The little settlement numbered 182 families in 1835 and was clustered in the few blocks surrounding the courthouse square.Forest trees shaded the few houses straggling along the high river bank, or toward Oak Street on the south, Sycamore on the north, and that lone expanse east of Fifth Street, the town line.

One man had his solitary abode north of where the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks are now, and a few people lived in their country homes not far east of Sixth Street. East of Sixth was open country on which men cut the tall grass for hay, plowed for corn or grazed their cattle among the hazel copses, clumps of oak and prairie wild flowers. The hunter did not have far to go to find wild deer and the predatory wolf or fox.

Stage coach lines connected Terre Haute with Cincinnati and Evansville, and at least one mail a week was expected. Early diaries show Terre Haute to have been an attractive village, wearing an air of comfort and prosperity, although it was still "one and two-story prosperity." A number of the houses were built of square logs, some covered with weatherboarding, painted white and trimmed with a little fresh green.

Forest trees still grew throughout the town and in groves around it. The banks of the river were the scene of a lively steamboat trade and traffic.

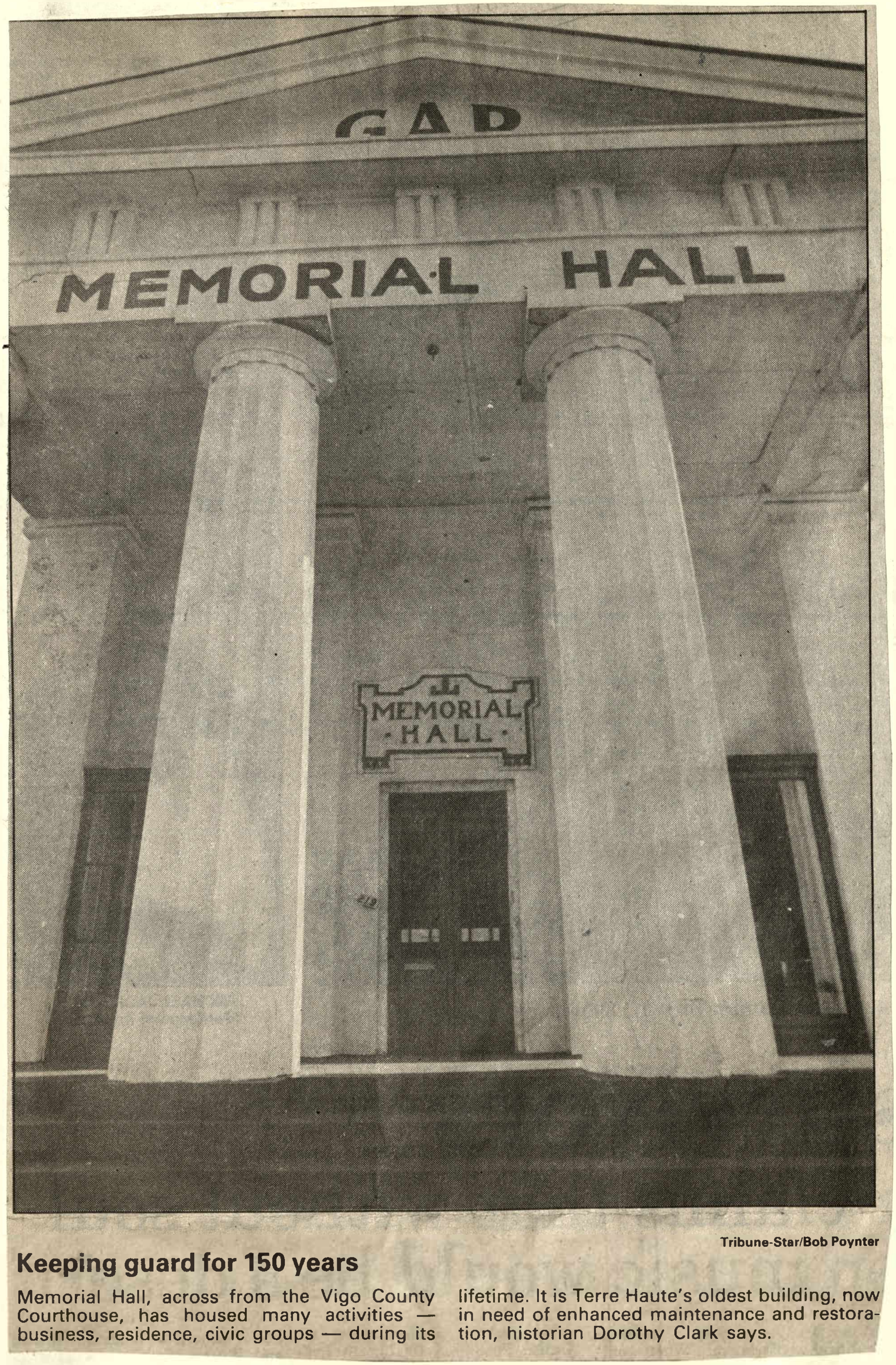
The wheels of a city government were set in motion when the state legislature approved the action Jan. 26, 1832. The town was divided into five wards and a long list of officers was elected. Nevertheless, the village life of the town continued in spite of these ambitious plans.

Near the old Blinn homestead on Third Street, north of Chestnut,there was a dense forest. Wild deer could be seen gamboling where the Terre Haute House now stands. Immediately north of the Blinn house was the public grazing ground where villagers took their cows in the early morning and drove them back before dark. Twice a day the sound of cowbells rang through the town.

Whatever the aspirations of 1832, the town was still a village. A new charter was granted by the legislature in 1838, and the first mayor was chosen. The same year a daily mail to Indianapolis was established. The Prairie House, forerunner of the Terre Haute House, was opened to the public.

The year 1840 was looked upon as separating the old and the new. All comers previous to this year were considered old pioneers and early settlers.

Clark, Dorothy ~~+ History~~ (AH)



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

Keeping guard for 150 years

Memorial Hall, across from the Vigo County Courthouse, has housed many activities — business, residence, civic groups — during its lifetime. It is Terre Haute's oldest building, now in need of enhanced maintenance and restoration, historian Dorothy Clark says.

Row by row, buildings grew around fledgling downtown

Clark, Dorothy + ~~History (TH)~~

T-S DEC 2 1984

Historically speaking

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Terre Haute was becoming a fairly well built up town in 1848. It was centered about the courthouse square, it is true, but was beginning to stretch out along Ohio and Wabash.

The residential section was close to the commercial part of the growing town, but many of the frame buildings were destined to burn down or become obsolete. The oldest building at that time was an example of brick masonry 25 years old, the office of Benjamin Gilman, the first pork packer in Terre Haute.

A solid block of frame structures known as "Dutch Row" that stood on the north side of Wabash west from Fourth Street to the alley was one of the first to be replaced by the owners. They joined together to erect "Union Row."

The Wabash Courier in 1850 announced the "handsome three-story brick for the full half block" was finished and one of the first tenants in the third room from the alley was the firm of Lucovice & Hulman.

The balance of that block was known as "Scott's Row," a decrepit collection of frame buildings but including a two-story brick, formerly the "Light Horse Harry" tavern, the town's second oldest house of entertainment.

On the morning of Dec. 2, 1850, fire broke out in Biehl's coffee house and spread to include all the half block and around the corner on Market or Third Street. The loss, in the dollars of those days, was estimated at $12,000 including contents. The principal owners were W. D. Griswold, Ezra W. Smith and John Routledge. They joined with the other owners in building Phoenix Row, appropriately named for the fabled bird that rose from its own ashes.

In the new building were the founders of many of the wealthier families in town. R. & O. Tousey were joined by W. R. McKeen; W. D. Griswold who later built railroads in Indiana and Illinois; and Ezra Smith who built the house on Ohio that became the Y.M.C.A. after his famous dinner party — which Terre Haute society refused to attend and caused him to disappeare from the scene.

At the northwest corner of Third and Wabash stood the Shandy Building which was built following a fire that destroyed the home of James Farrington, site of the first communion of the Catholic Church in Terre Haute.

Across the alley to the north stood the Dole Building, a large three-story brick that was a hospital during the Civil War and later the home of the fire department.

The Rose Building stood at the northwest corner of Second and Ohio and was built by Chauncey Rose before 1834 when the branch of the State Bank was organized. The Southern Bank of Indiana also was opened in this building as was the Prairie City Bank. It was razed for the erection of the present City Hall.

On the northeast corner of Third and Ohio stood the building used from 1867 to 1887 as the temporary Vigo County Courthouse. It succeeded the town hall that burned in 1864. It was built jointly by the city and county in 1854 and after the fire, the county bought the half interest of the city in the lot.

In the square south of Ohio on the east side of Third stood a hotel erected about 1847 by Judge R. H. Wedding. It was firstoperated by Louis Levy as the "City Hotel," sold to T. C. Buntin in 1854, who added to it. Then it was operated by others until its demolition in 1938.

On the northwest corner of First and Ohio stood the old Clark House. Demas Deming Sr. sold the two lots to James S. Clarke for $3,500 in 1849, which seems to indicate there was a building on the property at the time.

In 1881 Clarke sold it to John M. Chapman for $7,000. Chapman lost it on a judgement, and the sheriff sold it to Jacob and George Butz for $1,474 at public sale. In 1865 it was sold to Dodds, Mann & Duffey, and in 1867 it was sold again for $13,000, the peak of its prosperity. It finally passed to Robert P. Davis in 1889, by which time it had become a wagon yard for the country trade.

On Second north of Wabash was the Stewart House opened by Matthew Stewart in 1833 as the Terre Haute. Stewart died in 1845, and the popular hotel was run by several others. In the early 1870s P. J. Ryan began business there as an undertaker and liveryman.

The National House was built by John B. Ludowici in 1853 at the southwest corner of Sixth and Wabash extending to the alley. The Warren Block on the south side of Wabash west of Fourth was opened to tenants in 1853 with the Southern Bank on the corner. In 1858 the bank moved to the new building at the southeast corner, and was succeeded by Edsall & Co., the predecessors of the Root Store. Dr. Mahan was next to the bank in the Warren Block.

At the corner of the alley, S. H. Potter had a hardware store, and two doors east, where the Savoy Theater used to be, was the store of F. T. Hulman in his second location. In the rear of this block on Fourth was the Post Office in a building erected especially for the purpose.

Over the Post Office was the printing plant of the Terre Haute Journal. On the evening of Oct. 21, 1861, soldiers from Camp Vigo at the old fairgrounds on North Seventh, invaded the plant and destroyed everything in it. Type, paper, broken parts of the presses and the office furniture were thrown into the street. Seldom has Terre Haute seen such destruction by a mob as on this occasion. Col. Cookerly, the newspaper owner, was a Democrat and opposed to the war.

Dorothy Clark ~~+ History (TH)~~ T S SEP 8 1985 Community Affai

Diary of 1853

Traveler called Terre Haute ‘finest country I

Travel diaries are one of the most important resources for local history. They also are excellent sources for family history and genealogy.

The travel diary of Andrew Jackson North began April 12, 1853, when he and three companions — G.W. North, J.B. Myers and S.G. Wild — left their homes in Newville, Cumberland County, Pa. They planned to be gone more than two months.

Their fare to Harrisburg, where they ate their evening meal, was 95 cents. The next night they arrived in Pittsburgh (fare $6.80) and were "very tired after being out all night and got nothing to eat since last night and no sleep." They put up at the St. Clair House.

The next morning they went to see Major McCanlish to get a $100 Harrisburg note changed to $50 in gold and $50 in paper money. They took passage on the steamboat *Paul Anderson*. The fare was $5 to Cincinnati, including all meals on board; all four occupied one stateroom.

Historically speaking

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

After breakfast, the weather was clear and cold and the boat was still taking on freight, so the men went sightseeing. They toured a glass works, a rolling mill and counted 32 boats lying along the Monongahela River. The two Norths went to see a newly finished boat, which was touted as the largest boat ever on the Ohio River. They agreed it was magnificent, that Pittsburgh was the blackest place they ever saw. There, chimneys from every house and building were "belching forth clouds of impenetrable smoke from this bituminous coal." Another night was spent on board at Pittsburgh.

Still taking on freight and passengers the next morning, the *Paul Anderson* eventually got up steam and moved off south into the Ohio River.

"This steamboating is pleasant," North reported, "traveling smooth, easy, this huge palace floats on the bosom of this mighty current. Nay, floats did I say? She is propelled, forced, rushed, shot along as if by magic, swift as the wind, while here we sit, about 300 of us, in a fine parlour, fine carpet, comfortable chairs and sofas, ladies and gents, warm stoves, with room to promenade and enjoy themselves."

After a "first rate dinner at noon," the afternoon was spent in watching the small Ohio towns go by. "Evening supper at six o'clock was all right."

The next day, Sunday, was rainy and cold. Following evening supper, the passengers prepared for preaching of a sermon by a Baptist lady. North described her as a "strong, courageous looking old lady (who) done very well, all quiet, everyone paying strict attention."

Within 32 miles of Cincinnati the next day, they found the country on each side of the river very hilly. They cound Cincinnati "a great city, and peach trees in bloom." They saw "steamboats without number, steam engines and factories" and put up at the Winne House.

The next morning they left for Indianapolis by way of Dayton, fare $4.50. Here they visited friends before going on to Greenville to stay the night at the Buckeye House, leaving early the next morning for Indianapolis where they put up at Little's Hotel.

In the afternoon the group went out to see Dr. Hannon's land one and a half miles east of the city near the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. The Indiana Central Railroad runs through it. North noted the layout of the city, the number of very large buildings and the fact that nine railroads concentrated there. In his opinion, Indianapolis was "rather

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ever saw’

dull compared with Cinti or Pittsburgh.”

Leaving Indianapolis by train, the group traveled to Terre Haute, 89 miles, passing through Bridgeport, Plainfield, White Lick River, Cartersburg Station, Claysville, Norristown, Crittendon, Coatsville, Fillmore, Greencastle, Reels Mill, Croys Creek, Brazil, Highland, Cloverland, Woods Mills (now Seelyville). Before arriving in Terre Haute, about two miles out, North reported “the finest country I ever saw, a large black sand prairie about 15 miles long and about six miles broad and the finest farms imaginable.

“This Terre Haute is a beautiful city,” he wrote, with “very fine buildings, a first rate business place on the Wabash River.” They stopped for the night at Brown’s Hotel, and left the next morning “for Decatur by private conveyance for which we are to pay $30.” By nightfall they had traveled as far as Paris, Ill., reporting the country to be very hilly and broken.

Leaving Paris the next morning, they passed over 20 miles of prairie on the Springfield Road via a small village called Independence where they stopped for dinner. Next they went through 20 miles of prairie and crossed over a railroad staked off running from Chicago to Cairo.

A thunderstorm caused them to stop at V. Wallace’s tavern where they stayed all night. The 35 miles to Decatur were accomplished before dark the next night. North’s diary goes into detail about the people he visited in the Decatur area and their relationship to his family, friends and neighbors back home in Pennsylvania.

From there he traveled on to St. Louis, then up the Mississippi to near Keokuk where he saw 7,000 Mormons camped on the river bank, one of the stops on their long journey to Salt Lake City.

North’s party put up at the Hamilton House in Chicago, then left by stage for Fort Wayne, staying there at the Hediken House, before continuing the journey via stage over plank roads, canal boats through Ohio and railroads. They arrived home safely June 25, 1853.

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When Terre Haute was 'Porkopolis'

[illegible] Clark, Dorothy & ~~History (T.H.)~~

New Yorker's diary tells of canal transit in 1850s

Historically speaking

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Memoirs of former Terre Hauteans afford present-day readers a glimpse of the past.

In 1850 Minot S. Watson left New York City, his birthplace, in company with his mother, sister and younger brothers. He was headed west where his mother's sister, the widow of James Wasson, a retired sea captain, resided in Terre Haute, Ind.

Watson told how they went by steamer on the Hudson River from New York to Albany, then by rail to Buffalo, changing cars twice. There were no sleeping cars, so they had to sleep as best they could on the hard, leather-covered seats.

At Buffalo they embarked on the side-wheel steamer "Queen City," with Capt. Titus. It was a "substantial sea-worthy craft, with comfortable staterooms and a bountiful table, bound for Toledo, Ohio," Watson related.

"At Toledo we took passage on the canal packet for Terre Haute via the Wabash & Erie Canal. The accommodations of this craft were admirable." Watson wrote, "The cabin served both as dining room and bedroom. At night a curtain dropped amidship separated the sexes, and wooden platforms, suspended by cords from the ceiling, provided with bedding, proved comfortable resting places.

"The boat, drawn by six horses, passed smoothly on through primitive forests on either hand, with an occasional glimpse of a startled deer or wild turkey. The region we passed through was sparsely settled, the houses chiefly of logs. The larger cities, Fort Wayne and Lafayette, we passed in the night.

"The passengers were mostly original settlers socially inclined. My attention was directed to a mother with a querulous infant, who quieted it to sleep with a tag dipped in laudanum inserted between its lips in lieu of soothing syrup."

Watson told how "a break in the canal obliged us to remain a night and a day at Brown's hotel, Covington, Ind. Capt. Brown was in after years landlord of the Buntin House on Third Street in Terre Haute."

"The arrival of the packet in the basin at Sibleytown was an event in that day. [Note: This was in vicinity of Second and Chestnut.] Quite a crowd was present to witness our disembarkation after 10 days' journey from New York. We took rooms at the Prairie House [later Terre Haute House], owned by Chauncey Rose, and mine host was T. Campbell Buntin, affectionately called 'Uncle Cam' by his friends.

"Terre Haute in 1850 was a frontier town," wrote Watson, "dignified in name a city, with a population of 4,051, according to the census taken that year. The principal retail business street was the National Road, now Main Street. The shops from Third to Fifth were mostly one-story frame buildings. About the courthouse square were substantial brick erections, notable the Fairbanks building, corner of Third and Main. This was the wholesale district.

"Terre Haute was then a Porkopolis, and pork packing was its chief industry. Spacious slaughter houses lined the river bank. This business assumed such proportions that in the winter season 110,000 porkers were killed, packed and shipped on flatboats to New Orleans for domestic and foreign markets.

"The private residences were located on Ohio, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth streets in spacious enclosures embowered with shrubbery, and shade trees lined the unpaved streets. The more pretentious mansions were those of James Farrington, on the southern limit; Jacob D. Early, on Ohio Street; and of Curtis Gilbert, east of the canal on the National Road [now Gilbert Park].

"The old colonial mansion of Demas Deming on Sixth Street presented a stately appearance located on an entire city square. In 1850 there was but one railroad in the state of Indiana running from Madison to Indianapolis. The only means of communication between

Terre Haute and the outer world was by Concord Stage coaches. In winter and spring, journeying over the frozen or miry and corduroyed roads made life a burden."

There were relays every 15 miles when Watson rode with Senator Thomas H. Benton of Missouri enroute to Washington, D.C., from Indianapolis, a trip of over 60 hours. In 1851 he endured 48 hours of staging with William Taggart in midwinter to Evansville.

Watson related how "sidewheel steamboats, of goodly size, plied at high water between New Orleans and Terre Haute, laden with merchandise for the business houses, with a return cargo of pork products. To reach St. Louis it was optional to go down the Wabash and Ohio rivers to Cairo, thence by the Mississippi River to destination, or by stage across the grand prairie of Illinois, a distance of over 200 miles."

Born in Terre Haute in 1822, Nathaniel Allen could remember attending the first school at Fifth and Walnut Streets. His teachers were Charles Noble and Benjamin Haves.

The first show he could remember coming to town had an elephant and a black bear. The tent was put up on the north side of Main Street between First and Second, close to where Bauermeister's store was built later, on a lot then owned by Ezra Smith.

The first hotel he remembered was a two-story log house kept by Capt. Wasson and called "Indian Hotel." The next man to run it was named Cary.

The first saloon, Allen wrote, was located on the west side of First Street about half way between Main and Ohio streets. He told how saloons "were not run then as now, and the method of treating was different. In those days if a man was treating say six friends he would tell the barkeep to give him six pence worth of whiskey."

"The bartender would fill a glass that would hold a pint of whiskey. Then six glasses would be set out, and it would be divided out. Next time another man would do the same thing, and so on until all treated. Usually they had all they could carry when they left. Whiskey sold for from 10 to 12 cents a gallon."

[redacted] Clark, Dorothy

How early Terre Haute ran

For 10 years, fledgling town had no mayor

FEB 15 1987

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Terre Haute has come a long way in its nearly 171 years of official existence since it was founded in 1816. At first there was a rapid sale of lots in the new town because of the easy terms — nothing down and 12 to 24 months to pay. But cash receipts from sales were small, and there was a period of stagnation.

An appeal was made to the state legislature to have the county seat of Vigo County fixed at Terre Haute. Political dickering on the part of those for and against resulted in the legislature passing an act in January 1818 appointing a set of commissioners to make that decision. (Note: It was ever thus!)

These men met March 21 at the log cabin of Truman Blackman on Fort Harrison Prairie and decided in favor of the proposal presented by the original proprietors of Terre Haute.

Things went well with the infant town after that. In 1832 it was incorporated as a town by an act of the legislature. The town was divided into five wards, and one trustee was elected for each ward. These five men elected the first municipal officers of the town: F. James McCall, president; James T. Moffatt, clerk; Charles B. Taylor, assessor; Samuel Crawford, treasurer; and William Mars, constable and collector.

In 1838 a new charter was granted by the legislature that provided for election of a mayor and 10 councilmen. This charter gave the town government new powers.

They could suppress and restrain disorderly houses and groceries, billiard tables, nine- and 10-pin alleys, and could authorize destruction and demolition of all instruments for the purpose of gaming.

The time and place of swimming in the river could be determined and regulated. They could restrain and punish vagrants, mendicants, street beggars and the like.

The rolling of hoops, ball-playing, kite-flying or any other amusement having a tendency to annoy persons on the streets or to endanger their safety or to frighten teams of horses within the town was prohibited.

The councilmen could regulate and restrain operators of steamboats and stagecoaches. They even could regulate the quality of bread, and provide for the forfeiture of a different quality. They set the rules for cartmen and draymen.

In 1843 the office of mayor was discontinued by an act of the legislature, and the duties were performed by the council president. This arrangement continued for 10 years.

A large part of the town's revenue came from grocery and tavern licenses. Taxes were not so much in the news then. People still believed in the sanctity of death and taxes, but they paid them and complained only a little.

In 1843 when the town hall was built, the total income of the city was 10 cents on the $100, but in 1850 increased to 14 cents. Schools were not supported by taxes until 1860.

At first the council members served without pay and performed their duties well. However, in 1842, Mayor Harrison decided he was overworked and demanded $100 as a fair annual salary.

Elijah Tillotson was elected the first mayor of Terre Haute by the citizens. His tombstone in Woodlawn Cemetery is inscribed: "Elijah Tillotson, born Sept. 22, 1791, died Mar. 31, 1857, first mayor of Terre Haute."

In April 1853 Terre Haute was incorporated as a city under the state law enacted in 1852. The first election followed incorporation on May 30, 1853, and William H. Edwards was chosen as first mayor of the city and was re-elected the next year. The charter has remained almost unchanged to the present time.

New ordinances passed by the council show their efforts to improve the city. Persons were forbidden to feed horses, cows, hogs and other domestic animals on the sidewalks of the city under penalty of $1 fine plus costs for each offense.

The council ordered shade trees to be planted and the removal of unsightly sign boards hanging across the streets. Street fighting was severely punished, and a man was not allowed to let his team run away. One man was fined $10 for just such a dastardly offense.

The voluntary "bucket brigade" fire department of early Terre Haute worked energetically but was unequal to the demands. In 1838 the new council authorized purchase of a hand pumper and appointed a fire warden. In 1840 they appropriated $300 to build public cisterns in each ward to insure adequate water to put out fires.

Following the Civil War more unpaid volunteers manned the fire department and the hook and ladder equipment. An efficient police department was organized, and early Terre Haute had a reputation for law-abiding citizenry. Sin in Sin City was to develop much later.

A trip to 12 Points, 75 years ago

Ts AUG 0 2 1987 [redacted] Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Twelve Points, the northside business district at the intersection of Lafayette Avenue, Maple Avenue and North 13th Street, was a struggling little community 75 years ago with only a handful of residents, and mostly fields and orchards.

Walter Phillips, known as the "Daddy of Twelve Points," was a practical dreamer, promoter and a hard-headed businessman of many skills. He saw the potential for development of the little shopping area.

As a young deputy surveyor in 1889, Phillips had the job of surveying and laying out lots in all the land owned by a Mr. Smith of Watertown, N.Y. This extensive property included all the land on the east side of U.S. 41 to the railroad from Maple Avenue to Lost Creek. When the job was completed, Smith offered Phillips his choice of the lots.

Phillips and his bride chose the lot at the corner of Lafayette and Grand avenues, then bought the lot next to the corner, and in 1890 built their first home there. Walter Phillips served for a time as deputy recorder in the office of Levi Hughes, then held the office of recorder for a term, and now and then he would sell a lot or two for Mr. Smith.

In 1897 he decided his real interest was in real estate and continued that successful career until his death in 1939. His wife and partner, Fanny Phillips, managed the business until her death in 1950 at the age of 91 years.

Both were reared on farms north of town, and the house in which she was born was built by her Grandfather Denny in 1818. The bricks were handmade at the site.

According to Mrs. Phillips, "The oldest building in Twelve Points when they came to town was an old frame building where the hotel was built later. At that time it was a grocery and saloon run by a German fellow named Petri who was later killed by an armed bandit in the store."

Following Petri's death, his widow sold the property and built a house across Maple Avenue for herself and her children. (This is where the abandoned service station is now.)

"Another building here then," recalled Mrs. Phillips, "was the old Cory Barbour place which stood where the Assembly of God Church was built. I'll never forget the white picket fence that went all around the Baldridge place.

"Their property included all the land in the triangle formed by 13th Street, Lafayette and Barbour avenues, and the Baldridge homeplace was the house used as the priest's home of Sacred Heart Church.

"We bought our supplies at a general store operated first by Phillips' father and later by his brother, Branch." This was on the corner where the bank is. Across Maple Avenue was the old Smith home, which Phillips moved back on the lot across the alley when he built his first building, which housed Nate Wallace's grocery.

Soon after that, he built next door, moved the grocery there, and Charles West opened his drug store on the corner. Then, May 1951, Hank West, Charles West's son, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the store opening.

Phillips was in the building business in earnest by that time, and during the next several years he bought all the property south of West's to the second alley and filled it with buildings in which many early businesses flourished.

On the east side of Lafayette, George Stump operated a grist mill on the land between Phillips Avenue and the intersection north at Maple Avenue.

Phillips bought all the lots on the east side of the street to the old Northside Bakery and many will remember his livery stable where the theater is today.

The last building Walter Phillips erected housed the 10-cent store, Owl Drug and Citizen's Market. He had formed the nucleus for the northside district, and was fortunate to live for many years and witness the fruits of his labors as Twelve Points grew and prospered.

He operated the first concrete block business on Fort Harrison with a little, bearded Englishman, a Mr. Norris. These blocks were used in most of the buildings he erected during his career.

At one time everything from Maple to Buckeye and 13th to the C. & E. I. railroad tracks was called Lincoln Place, owned by Mr. Doak and his son of the Lincoln Real Estate Co.

At the turn of the century there were no sidewalks in Twelve Points, and the streets were dirt. Kid Kiser had a beer garden at 13th and Maple with tables under the trees and a high board fence all around it. He later sold to Marshall Meyers.

Swalls & Swander had the first dry goods store in Twelve Points. Bert Nosler ran a hardware store in the point across from the bank. Boyer had a job printing shop. Where the Northside Bakery was located was originally the Badgely Dry Goods Store.

At 13th Street and Phillips Avenue was the Airdome where they had an outdoor stage for vaudeville shows. The first week it opened it rained every night, but people took umbrellas and sat in the rain.

There were several early barber shops. John Morrow had one, Fred Roberts had the old Star Shop, and Mrs. Sparks, a woman barber, and her son conducted a thriving business.

Out in front of the old Nosler storeroom, where the bank is now, was a pump where people got a drink from an old iron ladle and passed the time of day.

Old-timers could remember when all the land back of the present bank was Lou Ketchum's cherry orchard, and when there was a skating rink in the middle.

Post-Civil War era brought time for leisure, schooling

TS APR 10 1988

Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Spectacular changes took place in the 35 years between the end of the Civil War and 1900. Industrialization brought startling changes in living. The rapid growth of the population, and the rise of big business caused people to have more comforts and more leisure. More Americans went to high school and to college.

Expansion of manufacturing and trade led to a remarkable growth of cities. The cities drew many of their people from the farms. They also attracted millions of European immigrants. By the turn of the century, about 14 percent of the population was foreign-born.

Before 1890 Terre Haute had a great percentage of German-born citizens. The only German newspaper in western Indiana, the Terre Haute Journal, was printed here.

In the 1880s, Terre Haute streets were either badly paved or not paved at all. But toward the end of the century, brick, asphalt and macadam pavements began to replace cobblestones and mud.

Electric street railways replaced the horse- and mule-drawn street cars. Street lighting was improved. Fire protection was updated with trained professional men instead of all-volunteer firefighters.

Among the new comforts and conveniences that came before the Gay Nineties were gas and even electric lighting to replace kerosene lamps. Hot-air furnaces replaced heating stoves, and telephones were installed.

Because of sewing machines, bakeries and commercial laundries, women had more leisure time by 1890. There were so many women's clubs that a national organization, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, was formed to link them together.

All of this leisure time caused the amusement business to expand. Variety or vaudeville shows became very popular with their endless succession of songs, dances, acrobatic stunts, trained animal acts, burlesque and the like. Musical plays and operettas drew large audiences. About 40 different circuses toured the country then.

Bicycling became such a popular fad that by 1893, 1 million bikes were in use. Clubs were formed. Weekly competitions and planned races and tours of the countryside were big events.

By 1850 the classical styles of architecture were going out of fashion. More elaborate styles came in. Buildings were decorated with turrets, pinnacles, gables and all sorts of ornamental trimmings.

It became popular for town residents to drive their horses and buggies around the city to see the new homes going up, the downtown area, and to enjoy the solid evidence that the town was growing and progress was showing up in bricks, stone and mortar.

An 1889 publication, "Terre Haute Illustrated," shows many examples of this type of architecture. The eight bound sections of the large book show eight local churches, 10 public buildings, six schools, two orphanages, a home for elderly ladies, two local industries, and 16 residences.

Four of the churches look very much as they did in 1889, but four are gone. Only one of the 10 public buildings still stands. The Terre Haute Fire Department headquarters at 28 S. Ninth St. is still there, but has been extensively remodeled.

St. Benedict's German Catholic School is the only one of the six schools still standing. Both orphanages of 1889 are gone, as is the Dowling Home for Old Ladies on North Sixth Street.

As this is written, how many of the 16 residences are still in existence? After nearly a century, they've been razed for progress, remodeled until they're unrecognizable, or used for other business purposes.

These were the showplaces of 1889 here in Terre Haute when Jacob C. Kolsem was mayor and Benjamin Harrison was president of the United States.

They included the Harry J. Baker home, 1100 S. Sixth St.; Edward Gilbert, 23 Gilbert Place; Frank McKeen, 655 Cherry St.; William Armstrong, northeast corner of Center and Sycamore; Robert Andrew, 1434 Chestnut St.; Col. R.W. Thompson, 1214 S. Sixth St.; Crawford Fairbanks, 402 S. Sixth St.; William R. McKeen, 221 S. Sixth St.; A.J. Crawford, 405 S. Sixth St.; David W. Henry, 1200 S. Sixth St.; John N. Whonart, 1101 S. Seventh St.; Jacob A. Parker, 903 S. Sixth St.; A. Arnold, 330 S. Sixth St.; and James P. Crawford, 709 S. Sixth St.

It would be fun to get in the horse and buggy and drive around town today (doesn't everyone still take a Sunday drive?) and see how many of these 1889 featured homes are still with us.

Land speculators won gamble on property sold at Terre Haute site

Ts NOV 27 1988

Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

As part of a giant real-estate corporation, the proprietors of the Town of Terre Haute invested their money in a town site, and they did very well for themselves. They gambled and won.

Another early settler with the same motive was Joseph Kitchell. He was so determined to get possession of the land lying between Hulman and Locust streets, with the river on the west and the present Seventh Street on the east, that he ran the price up to more than $36 an acre in competitive bidding.

Only one of the five men bidding against Kitchell knew the value of the land. He was Abraham Markle, who the previous year had visited this territory with a group and selected land. They accompanied him from New York and later were to become owners of much of the land as Canadian volunteers.

Some of these men had joined Markle in his petition to Congress the following February, asking for grants of land in Indiana Territory to recompense them for the loss of their properties in Canada and for their services as volunteers in the War of 1812.

All of these men had been United States citizens and had gone over to Canada, attracted by cheap land and the mild climate. On March 5, 1816, Congress passed an act granting the land in proportion to their rank in the Army.

The highest officer in the Canadian volunteers, who survived the war, was Maj. Markle, who was awarded 800 acres. The president's proclamation dated May 1, 1816, allowed the claimants to choose their land on the first Monday in June. Another proclamation on the same day threw open the land to purchasers on the second Monday in September.

Markle appeared in the land office to present Land Warrant No. 1. The lands which he had chosen were the half-section of land located on Otter Creek, where he soon erected his mill. The balance of his grant, 480 acres, he tried unsuccessfully to surrender for the fractional section on which Fort Harrison was located.

The registrar of the land office refused this request on the grounds that these entries should be on quarter sections or multiples thereof. Markle endorsed his warrant, claiming the land between Seventh and 13th streets and from Maple Avenue to a mile and a half north.

Maj. John T. Chunn, commander of Fort Harrison at the time, entered a vigorous refusal to this claim and much correspondence and bitter feeling finally led to Chunn challenging Markle to a duel to decide the question.

The matter then went to the Circuit Court, where an indictment was made against Chunn and his representative, Capt. Cass. The whole matter was finally settled with the assistance of the Masonic order, to which these men belonged. In 1817, an appeal to President Monroe resulted in the land office issuing patents for the land in question.

As the date for the sale drew near, Markle associated himself with Hyacinth Lasselle, a Vincennes innkeeper; Jonathan Lindley of Orange County, Ind., and Cuthbert and Thomas Bullitt, brothers and merchants of Louisville, who had a branch store in Vincennes.

This group of five men finally permitted Kitchell to complete his purchase if he would agree to act as their agent to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the property, 13 tracts in all, as they, or any three of them might direct.

The agreement was drawn up and signed, a town plat was filed with the Knox County Recorder, and advertisements of the sale were placed in the Western Sun of Vincennes, the Louisville Correspondent, and the Liberty Hall of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The sale took place Oct. 30 and 31, 1816, and sales amounting to $21,000 were bid in. The deputy surveyor for the government was William Harris, who must have started his work soon after the confirmation of the treaty with the Indians. The Indian troubles preceding the War of 1812 interrupted his work, and the final survey was completed in 1815.

This competent engineer was chosen by the proprietors because he was well acquainted with the land. He laid out the plat between Swan and Eagle streets, and between Fifth and Water streets, 35 blocks in all.

There is no record of the order in which the sales were made, but it's logical to suppose that the auctioneer started with Lot 1 at the northwest corner of Fifth and Swan and proceeded in an orderly manner. The proprietors reserved for future sales each alternate lot and offered for sale 134 lots.

Among the purchasers of one or more lots were Jerathmel B. Borland, Mark Barnet, Michel Bruelet, the Bullitt brothers, Menaseth Brown, David Carter, Phineas M. Cooper, Eleazer Carter, Robert Carr, Samuel Colman, James Cunningham, John M. Coleman, William Congleton, John Dunn, John Dickson, Thomas Emerson, Nancy Early, Gabriel T. Floyd, Henry Redford, William Hoggatt, John Hamilton, Robert Harrison, David Harber, John Hollowell and Christopher Harrison.

Pride and abundance

Terre Haute boasted advantages 90 years ago

JUN 0 4 1989

Clark Dorothy

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Terre Haute's advantages in 1897 were many and varied according to the local newspapers. We had large paper mills, one novelty works, producing oil wells, and the cost of living and the rate of taxation were both low.

The city had a college for women, a fine public library, two beautiful parks, money and lots of it. Its carworks employed 900 men. It had a motor and dynamo works, three boiler manufactories, and several brass and iron foundries.

Ninety years ago Terre Haute had magnificent business blocks, a handsome Federal building, two fine artesian bathhouses, and the largest brewery in Indiana. It had few cranks and lots of hustlers.

The city's blast furnace employed over 100 men, its heading factories employed 400 men. It had eight newspapers and magazines, and men of brains and plenty of them. It was the jobbing center of a large territory.

Its fire department was unexcelled anywhere. It had the largest distillery in the world. Its businessmen were solid and prosperous, and its products were shipped to Europe.

Terre Haute had fine drives in every direction from town. The city debt was one of the smallest in the country; 35 railroad trains arrived and departed daily. And there were no malaria breeding swamps in the locality.

The city had the three largest hominy mills in the world, the largest car works in the United States. Its six stave and barrel factories employed 350 men, a large woolen mill employed many hands, and two large rolling mills employed over 500 hands.

It was predicted that in 1900 Terre Haute would have a population of 60,000. It had fine residences noted for their beauty, six prosperous banks, three of which were national, and a population of 35,000 and steadily increasing.

Five overall factories employed 1,000 hands. The city had one of the best electric light plants in the country. Ten lines of railroad centered here from all directions.

For real estate investments there was no place like Terre Haute in 1897. The city had 28 societies, unions and clubs. It was the commercial center of western Indiana and eastern Illinois. Every month saw new development in wealth and population.

With jobbing houses in every line, and all doing a good business, the city had 10 carriage and wagon factories employing 600 men. Good steam coal was delivered to the factories at 40 cents to 60 cents per ton.

There were no prettier girls anywhere than in Terre Haute. Its working men were well paid, and the majority of them owned their own homes. The city had the handsomest Union railway station in the country west of Indianapolis.

Situated in the center of the finest bituminous and block coal fields in the world, the surrounding country poured an immense volume of trade into the retail stores of Terre Haute.

Its people were refined, hospitable and warm-hearted. Strangers were made welcome. The city boasted of its 39 churches. The State Normal School (now Indiana State University) had an enrollment of over 1,800 students. And still they come.

The city counted 65 commercial companies in 1897. It had a better system of water works and better water than any city its size in the western states. There were 25 building, loan fund and savings associations, and the city was headquarters for one of the largest and most important revenue districts in the United States.

Terre Haute's three flouring mills exceeded $2 million a year, with a capacity of over 2,500 barrels a day. Elegant building lots were available in the immediate suburbs at reasonable prices and on favorable terms. The city's complete system of electric street railway had lines extending far into the suburbs in every direction.

In 1897 Terre Haute boasted about 1,000 new buildings erected the previous year. It had two gas companies selling their product at 35 cents per thousand feet, the cheapest gas in the country. There were 18 public schools, including a high school, and a number of private schools. Rose Polytechnic Institute, one of the best engineering schools in the west, had students from nearly every state in the union.

A great center of production and distribution, Terre Haute was the center of the great corn and wheat region of the central states. Its flour output was 35 car loads per day. It was the first city to manufacture hominy and other food products made from corn.

Laborers were plentiful here 90 years ago, and the manufacturer was not so liable to annoying strikes as in the east. Taxes were low, fuel was cheap, the banks were reliable, and the water supply unlimited, the railroad facilities unexcelled, building material was easily obtained, and Terre Haute was close to all the great markets in the country.

Boosters of Terre Haute were certainly familiar with their home territory before the turn of the century. The newspapers kept the people informed of everything there was to be proud of in their home town so they could pass the word and have local pride in abundance.

175 years of progress

From modest start, city has grown and prospered

TS AUG 0 5 1990 Clark, Dorothy

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Next year Terre Haute will celebrate the 175th anniversary of its founding. It's fascinating to look back and remember the many historic eras in its development.

From 1816 to 1850 were the years of the stagecoach, the flat boat, and the canal boat. In 1818, Terre Haute became the county seat of Vigo County, and the future looked bright.

The National Road was opened as far west as Terre Haute in 1823, and the city's population was estimated from 50 to 300 people. One source stated that in 1825 there were only 200 citizens here.

By 1832 log houses were popping up all over the village which now numbered 600 people. The rough logs of some log cabins were covered with boards from the saw mill. Those early residents painted their houses white, but preferred red paint on their roofs.

From 1832 to 1835 the population soared to 1,214 during a brisk growing period, but then came a brief financial panic and depression.

The first boat on the Wabash & Erie Canal arrived in town in 1849. In 1853 Terre Haute was organized as a city instead of a town, and three years later, in 1856, tallow candles and lard-oil lamps gave way to gas lights. It would be 1885 before electric lighting was here to stay.

Railroads were first projected and built here in 1850, ushering in the second era of local history. A small pamphlet entitled "Railroad and Steamboat Sketches between Philadelphia and Kansas" was printed and distributed to most of the hotels in the area.

"Terre Haute, where we leave the (railroad) cars and take the Terre Haute & Alton Road, is one among the beautiful towns in the West," explained the booklet.

"Its ample streets of hard gravel, its fine dwellings, its smooth, shaded walks, its great natural advantages of location — being elevated, the view for miles around reminds you that you are in the centre of a beautiful park, not surpassed by any ever seen by our Irving in good old merrie England; and last but not least, its happy people, with their smiling, cheerful, healthy faces, all show that it is a place with but few counterparts."

The publication told how "the town is situated on the east bank of the Wabash River, on an eminence 60 feet above the level of the river. The land in the vicinity is very fertile, and the country abounds with rich beds of coal and iron. The export trade is quite large, principally consisting of pork, grain and flour; there are several large slaughtering and pork-packing houses in the town."

Perhaps no city in the Mississippi Valley commanded such universal admiration as Terre Haute did at that time. It had no peer, and was as healthy as any point anywhere.

Another publication, "Hawes & Co.'s Catalogue & Stranger's Guide" printed in Buffalo, N.Y., about the same time, had this to say about the city: "Terre Haute, the county seat of Vigo County, one of the most beautiful and flourishing cities in Indiana, is situated on a high prairie which overlooks the Wabash River, at the point where the Federal Road crosses it.

"From this point the prairie runs back three miles to a bold bluff, where it is skirted by heavy timber lands. North and south for many miles it is cultivated into delightful farms interspersed with beautiful groves, presenting one of the most picturesque, yet garden-like prospects anywhere to be found in the west."

The booklet told how the Terre Haute and Richmond Railroad connected the city with the Atlantic seaboard, and the T.H. & Alton Railroad brought it in easy access to all the principal cities of Illinois and the City of St. Louis. The Evansville & Crawfordsville Railroad intersected at this point with other railroads in every direction.

The Wabash & Erie Canal afforded every facility for transportation of heavy merchandise, while the Wabash River, navigable for steamboats six months in the year, carried a great amount of pork, grain, etc. to the southern markets. Terre Haute had become a major pork-packing center in the west.

Terre Haute had three banks, according to Hawes: the Southern Bank, a Branch of the State Bank of Indiana, and the Prairie City Bank. There were "a number of grocery and dry-goods houses, and Terre Haute is the market point of Eastern Illinois and Western Indiana. The population is now about 11,000 and rapidly increasing."

During the time of the early railroads here, some of the city's well-to-do citizens built some of the finest homes to be found in the Midwest. R.N. Hudson's residence at Sixth and Oak streets (now the Woman's Department Club) was considered to be the first really handsome home on South Sixth Street.

The style of those early houses was established in 1837 when the first angular, square-cornered structures were built. Elisha Havens built his home in 1857. It was considered to be one of the finest in the city and state at that time.

By the 1880s, however, a new generation began to take hold. Lucius Ryce converted the old canal office on Ohio Street into a fine residence. This property was later owned by G.W. Bement.

Citizens boasted about the new Vigo County Courthouse with its dome rising 251 feet and seven inches above all other buildings in town.

J.O. Jones, first commissioned Terre Haute postmaster in 1841, had seen the local post office expand from a 20-foot square room at Second and Ohio to the new stone building costing $200,000 and formally opened in April 1889. Only the facade of this building survives as a memorial to Chauncey Rose in Fairbanks Park.

The City of Terre Haute has come a long way in its 175 years of progress, still growing as a center of industry, commerce, education, culture, transportation and agriculture.

Community Affairs File
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Shares of a future city

Early local land sales brought out plenty of buyers

T/S Aug 12, 1990 Clark Dorothy

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Following the land sale at Vincennes in September 1816, Joseph Kitchell was the owner of Terre Haute in the sense that he was the successful bidder for not only the site of the future city but of considerably more land extending up and down the Wabash River for many miles and covering all available desirable locations for a city with the single exception of the fractional acreage upon which stood Fort Harrison, built in 1811.

Kitchell knew when he bid for all this land that he did not have the money to pay for it. In a very few days we find him disposing of what he had agreed to purchase and pay for to those five men who later became known as the "Proprietors of the Town of Terre Haute." They were the brothers Cuthbert and Thomas Bullitt, Jonathan Lindley, Abraham Markle and Hyacinth Laselle. Kitchell was appointed their agent with the princely salary (in those days) of $2 a day and expenses.

According to their agreement, the entire property was divided into 12 equal shares. Two shares went to the Bullitts, four to Lindley, three to Markle, and three to Laselle. Each of these five men proceeded at once to sell parts of their shares.

On the day following the agreement, Markle sold three-fourths of his three shares to Eliakim Crosby, Eleazer Aspinwall, and Harlow and Trimble.

Within a week, Lindley sold seven-eighths of his four shares to Joseph Kitchell, David Raymond, Henry Speed, William Hoggatt, Jonathan Lyons, John DePauw and John Owens.

On Sept. 18, Laselle split his interest into 20 shares and sold them to Truman Blackman, John Goodwin, Joseph Warner, Caleb Crawford, Andrew Himrod, M. and H. Richardville, Michael Brouliette, Pierre Brouliette, Modiset and Shields, John Dunn, Robert Harrison, John Carr, John R. Holloway, Charles Thompson, John Andrews, Pierre LaPlante and John Long.

For another month these 35 owners were, in a way, the real proprietors although there is little doubt that shares changed hands so rapidly that records were not made of the transfers. The real direction was still in the hands of the original five men who were bound to the government for the ultimate payments for the lands.

At the sale of lots conducted Oct. 30-31, many buyers took over ownership through their successful bidding at the auction. In their enthusiasm many paid more for the lots than the property was worth.

Liberal credit was given on condition that the buyer enter into agreement to pay half in one year and half in the second year. Bonds with acceptable security were given in the amount of twice the balance due.

Purchasers of one lot each were Michael Brouliette, Menaseth Brown, Phineas M. Cooper, Robert Carr, Samuel Colman, William Congleton, John Dickson, Thomas Emerson, Nancy Early, Robert Harrison, David Harber, John Hollowell, John Jencks and Isaac Lambert.

Also, Jonathan Marney, John G. Pollock, John M. Peebles, William Roads, Henry Richardville, Charles Smith, James Stewart, John Strutton, Samuel Thing, John Trimble, William Walker and Lambert and Dickson.

Those buying two lots each were Cuthbert and Thomas Bullitt, David Carter, Eleazer Carter, James Cunningham, Christopher Harrison, Nathan Kirk, Hyacinth Laselle, Pierre LaPlante, McCullough and Clark, William Middleton, Thomas Puckett, Richard B. Brice and Henry Redford.

Also, James Sproul, Thomas C. Shields, Charles Thompson, Thomas Turman and William Winter.

Those purchasing three lots were Mark Barnett, George C. Gwathmey, John Hamilton, John L. McCullough and Abraham Markle.

Four lots each were purchased by J. B. Borland, John Dunn, Gabriel F. Floyd and General W. Johnston.

John M. Colman bought five lots. Robert Sturgus bought seven; William Hoggatt bought eight; and Charles B. Modisett bought 11.

The old sale book containing the accounts of the proprietors, and from which the above names were taken, is now in the possession of the Hendricks Abstract Company. Many odd notations appear regarding the sale or payments for lots.

History is written from the written records which survive the ravages of time. Readers are cautioned not to destroy any letters, public records, business records, old newspapers, diaries, etc. without calling this writer. Don't let precious history go up in smoke or disappear in a dumpster!

Country village grows up

By late 1800s, Terre Haute had 'grown like an oak'

TS OCT 1 4 1990 Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

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By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

More than a century ago, the editor of The Saturday Courier, John O. Hardesty, reported that "things have changed in Terre Haute."

Terre Haute was no longer a country village. It was not merely the county seat depending on the courthouse for prosperity, but a brisk, bustling, busy city containing more then 30,000 people.

"Her people," said Hardesty, "were of the driving, pushing, energetic kind to be found only in such places as Terre Haute and Chicago.

"No drones were permitted here," he said, "and if they come they are soon jostled out of the way and find lodging in some slow, go-as-you-please place."

He compared Terre Haute's steady, substantial, constant growth with the marvels of the west. "She has not sprung up like a mushroom to decay rapidly, but has grown like the oak," he said, "and during the last three or four years her population has been increasing at the rate of 3,000 a year, her limits have been extending at the rate of about 800 houses a year."

With the increase in population and occupied territory, Hardesty noted Terre Haute's wealth had kept pace. Her manufacturing and mercantile interests enlarged correspondingly.

The editor believed the cheap coal was the greatest inducement for manufacturers to come here, along with the iron mills, blast furnaces and nail factories. Timber in the adjacent areas was of the best quality which attracted the car works and the hub and spoke factory.

Terre Haute boasted about having the largest distillery in the world, many hominy mills and flour mills, her eight railroads and navigable river. (Remember, this was more than a century ago!)

Some 247 manufacturing establishments in Terre Haute employed from 200 to 500 men. They included 41 shoemakers, 26 carpenters and builders, 14 blacksmiths, nine cooper shops, nine saddle and harness makers, 11 bakers and confectioners, 11 cigar manufacturers, seven brick makers, seven carriage makers, five flour mills, four boilermakers, and four pump makers.

Also, three each of bleachers, engine builders, foundries, gunsmiths, locksmiths, machine shops, medicine manufacturers, planing mills, shirt factories, stave factories, and wagon makers.

Also, two each of bottlers, book binders, box makers, cabinet makers, cigar box makers, coffee and spice mills, hominy mills, hub and spoke factories, iron manufacturers, mattress factories, overall factories, and saw mills.

Also, at least one each of the following: awning makers, bed spring makers, brewers, brass foundries, broom makers, car manufacturers, carpet weavers, clock makers, cooper smiths, meal and feed mill, distillery, elevator bucket factory, tile factory, and galvanized cornice makers.

There were at least one each of the following: gas companies, gold plater, ink manufacturer, lithographer, model maker, nail factory, office furniture factory, pharmacist supplier, refrigerator manufacturer, scale factory, sewer pipe maker, and street sewer builder.

Also, showcase builder, stove factory, tent maker, tin and copper works, dress hoop factory, trunk maker, and upholsterer.

Known as the oldest Republican newspaper in Vigo County, The Saturday Courier was published every Saturday and sold for $1 per year. Single copies cost 5 cents.

In the year 1881, the tenth census of the state of Indiana taken by the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., showed that Vigo County had a population of 45,656 people.

These were pretty evenly divided between 23,332 males and 22,324 females. Native residents totaled 40,867; foreign born, 4,789; 44,155 were white; 1,501 were non-white, which included two Chinese and seven Indians.

Comparing Vigo with its surrounding counties, Clay had 25,853 citizens; Greene had 22,996 with only one Indian; Sullivan had 20,336; Vermillion had 12,025; and Parke had 19,460 with two Indians.

The total for the state in 1881 was 1,978,362 which included 33 Chinese, four Japanese, and 233 Indians.

Terre Haute had grown to be the third-largest city in the state in 1881. That year the mayor was Benjamin F. Havens. Eugene V. Debs was city clerk, his deputy was Alexander J. Mullen.

Other city officials were Hugo Duenweg, treasurer; John H. Kidd, marshal; Patrick C. Mohan, deputy marshal; John F. O'Reilly, assessor; Joseph P. O'Reilly, deputy assessor; James M. Allen, city attorney; George H. Simpson, civil engineer; William T. Byers, street commissioner; Harry Russell, police chief; William K. Burnett, chief of the fire department; Charles M. Hirzel, station house keeper; and Hamilton Elliott, market master.

In 1881, the city hall stood on the northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut streets. The post office was located at 20-22 Soutn Sixth. There were only seven mail carriers, and postage was 2 cents for local letters and 3 cents if mailed outside of town. Third-class mail was only 1 cent a pound.

When people had free time from all this bustling, they could stay home and read one or more of the 11 newspapers printed here.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Carving up the land

Terre Haute grew in strategic geographic location

T S JUL 0 1 1990

Clark Dorothy —

Historically speaking

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If we had been living in what is now Terre Haute in 1778 and had received a letter from some eastern friend or relative, it would have been directed as follows: "Weautano Village, Illinois County, Virginia."

At that time, what is now Terre Haute belonged to the State of Virginia and was, under an act passed through the General Assembly of the State of Virginia, declared to be Illinois County. The only settlement here at that time was the Weautano Indian village located near where the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge later crossed the Wabash River.

Joseph Liston, one of the main scouts for Gen. William Henry Harrison, lived in that Indian village for a time. Credited with plowing the first furrow in what is now Vigo County, Liston planted a corn field for Harrison's army before its arrival here to construct Fort Harrison in 1811 on that famous march from Vincennes to the Battle of Tippecanoe.

The first corn field was located where Strawberry Hill is now at South Sixth Street and Seabury Avenue. Liston associated with the Indians for many years, sympathizing with their mistreatment at the hands of the white settlers.

In the spring of 1779, Virginia extended its authority over the northwestern possessions, and appointed Col. Todd as governor of Illinois County with headquarters at Kaskaskia. His territorial limit has been classed as "all out of doors," as there was no certain limit to the territory over which he had control.

On Sept. 6, 1780, Congress requested the several states having claims to unappropriated lands in the western country to send a release thereof to the United States.

The State of Virginia released its claim to the Northwest Territory on Jan. 2, 1781, reserving 120,000 acres near the Falls of the Ohio (now Louisville, Ky.) which had been promised to Gen. George Rogers Clark and the officers and soldiers of his command. This reservation also protected the land titles of the French of Kaskaskia, Vincennes and neighboring villages.

The final act of Virginia, completing the cession of these lands, was not complete until March 1, 1784. The ordinance passed in 1787 provided: "That there shall be formed in said territory no less than three, nor more than four states; the western state to be bounded by the Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash rivers. A direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post St. Vincent (Vincennes) due north to the territorial line between the U.S. and Canada, and west by said line to the Lake of the Woods, and the Mississippi.

"The middle state shall be bound by the said direct line, the Wabash from Post St. Vincent to the Ohio, by the Ohio, and by a direct line north from the mouth of the great Miami to the territorial line.

"The eastern state shall be bound by the last mentioned direct line, the Ohio River, Pennsylvania, and the territorial line."

On May 7, 1800, Congress passed an act for a division of the territory to take effect July 4. By this act, all that part of the Northwest Territory lying, "to the westward of a line beginning at the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north until it shall intersect the territorial line between the U.S. and Canada, shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory to be called the Indiana Territory."

It is in this act that the name "Indiana" was first attached to this part of the United States. There is no record as to who first suggested the name, but there is evidence that the name "Indiana" was given out of respect for and in memory of the Indians.

Meaning "Land of Indians," the name was most appropriate because this area was more densely settled by the Indians than any other part of the country. The woods and prairies were alive with game, and the many beautiful rivers and streams seem to have attracted from every direction every Indian nation which could crowd upon the territory.

At the time of the appointment of Gov. Harrison, the area now comprising Vigo County was still in the hands of the Indians, but by the end of 1805 Harrison had extinguished the Indian title to more than 46,000 square miles of territory, including what is now Vigo County, but still the Miami nation and their allies held on to their claim to the Wabash Valley. They wanted the fish in the streams and the abundant game everywhere. This fed their families and all were warm and happy in the winter in the deep woods of the valleys. They would not give up this good land so easily.

On Sept. 30, 1809, Harrison concluded a treaty with the Indians for all the lands south of a line which should run from the corner of the old reservation on White River from the Ten O'Clock Sun to the south of Pishewaw (Raccoon Creek).

A month later, the Weautanos, the heads of the original village of Terre Haute, went to Vincennes and confirmed this cession. Soon after, the Kickapoos gave their consent. These were the last tribes having any shadow of just claim to the disputed territory. This included what is now Vigo County.

In August 1810, Tecumseh met Gen. Harrison at Vincennes and again declared he would not allow surveyors to run a line or any settlement be made with the whites. He concluded his speech with the fine sarcasm, "The white man has land enough for I have sent a spy over all the land north of the Ohio, and the whites do not tend half the land they already have."

The highlands of the Wabash, from which the name Terre Haute was taken, meaning "high land" in French, has always been a place noted in this country's history.

The line dividing the French possessions in Canada from the French possessions in New Orleans shows on present-day maps as U.S. 40 or the National Road. If certain historical events had not taken place, local residents living south of Wabash Avenue would belong to New Orleans, those living north of Wabash would be Canadians.

The site of the Weautano village, sometimes called "Rising Sun" and "Old Orchard," was the original Terre Haute as we know it now. What was known as Old Terre Haute was a settlement some three miles below the present location, but it was soon abandoned for the present, more desirable one.

The year 1811 was momentous. The first steamboat in western waters came down the Ohio River. Harrison marched his army north and built Fort Harrison. There was a wonderful eclipse of the sun that year, and the greatest earthquake ever in the western hemisphere took place in 1811 when New Madrid, below Cairo, on the Mississippi River was destroyed.

In the years to come, many more strange and wonderful events would occur in the Wabash Valley.

1994

Valley heritage

(21) *Clark, Dorothy (+) * ~~[illegible]~~)

Ex-residents shared memories

Ts FEB 13 1994

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

Back in the 1920s, several former residents of Terre Haute were contacted and asked if they would write down some of their memories of their years in this city.

Bessie Barr, living in Kirkwood, Mo., told of her family. Her father, Thomas H. Barr, was the third of four brothers who came from Zanesville, Ohio, to Terre Haute in the early 1850s. The least robust of the four, he outlived the others.

Barr engaged in the drug business in Terre Haute, a member of the firm of Barr, Gulick & Berry. He married Helen Eaglesfield, second child of William Eaglesfield, who was in the lumber business here with Junius Leake. Bessie was a graduate of Terre Haute Female College.

J.L. Oakey, president of the California State Bank at San Bernardino in 1923, told of a swimmin' hole. He wrote: "I remember the Wabash & Erie Canal that ran through Terre Haute and up past Fort Harrison, and I remember an ol' swimmin' hole in the canal back of William Stewart place on North Seventh St., and how a Baptist Sunday School picnic was returning from the fort upon a canal boat, and a lot of we small boys were swimming in the canal, and as the boat came in sight, we ran away to hid, leaving our clothes on the bank. When someone jumped off the boat and picked up one of my boots, I chased after them, begging them to throw it off."

Thomas A. Lawes, 72 years in 1924, told of his visit to Terre Haute the previous year. He went out to Woodlawn Cemetery and paid a visit to the Lawes family plot "where a broken column marked the site of father's grave." His father died in 1859, and for years his grave was the only one. In 1923 the plot was full. His grandmother, father and mother, an uncle, Thomas E. Lawes, and his wife and two daughters, and an aunt were buried there.

While in Woodlawn, Lawes visited the grave of his boyhood sweetheart whose tombstone was inscribed 1857-1882. It seems they drifted apart. She married one of his friends, and Lawes married another, but he never forgot her.

When asked about Benny Hayes and his school, Lawes remembered the following boys and girls who attended at the time he was there. They were John Gordon, Mell Stewart, Sam Paddock, the Ripley boys, Frank Brittlebank, George Hebb, Mary Reeves, and Tom Cookerly.

Also, John Warren, Charles Appleby, W.H. Peddle, Ed Schmidt, James Gill, Harry Rugan, Ed Sibley, Scott Bell, John and James Oakey, Thomas McLean, James, Will and Mary Hedges, William S. McLain, Barney and Charles Goodwin, Joe and Dick Reagan, John Clift, Tom Cottom, Flora Button, William Lawes and Harry Gilbert.

Lawes remembered Benny Hayes as "a very capable teacher, somewhat of a martinet. He was a strong believer in corporal punishment. For minor offenses he took the culprit's hand, palm up, and gave it a few raps with a ruler."

"For a greater offense, the ruler was applied to the culprit's physique. He had a good trait which some may not remember. He would not use the ruler on my brother Will or myself. As he announced it, he would not beat the children that had no father to take their part, so our punishment was meted out to us by keeping us in after school."

Lawes also recalled that Hayes had a poor memory. "He would tell a scholar to stay in after school and promptly forget that he ever said it. Scholars noticed this lapse of memory, and when school let out would march out with the innocent, and Benny would never remember the pupil was requested to stay in. However, once in a while, one of the scholars would tattle to the teacher that a delinquent scholar marched out, and then trouble began. One had to run the risk of being reported."

Lawes remembered there was a great snow ball fight with the German boys who had a school in the north end of the Seminary building. "I remember," he wrote, "that John Gordon was struck with a snow ball containing a stone, and his skull was fractured. He lay between life and death for many days. Every day the teacher would report his condition to the scholars, and exhort us not to put stones in snow balls."

At the age of 70 years in 1922, Lawes retired on a pension from the Nickel Plate Railroad with the right to travel on a pass anywhere in the United States and Canada. He traveled all over the world, returning to Terre Haute every year or so to renew friendships as his path crossed Indiana. He lived with a daughter in Philadelphia. He also has a son, William Lawes.

Old diaries and letters tell much of Terre Haute's earlier history. Anyone knowing of such papers are urged to contact this writer.

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Terre Haute booming in 1884

TS 2/9/94

Clark, Dorothy

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

Terre Haute was a boom town in 1884. Mayor William H. Armstrong presided at City Hall at the northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut streets.

Other city officials were George W. Davis, clerk; Frank E. Heaney, deputy clerk; Charles A. Robinson, treasurer; Richard Dahlen, deputy treasurer; John Leedham, marshal; Albert M. Buckingham, deputy marshal; Shepard Watson, assessor; William Mack, city attorney; and Harry Donham, deputy attorney.

Also, George R. Grimes, civil engineer; Bernard Dougherty, street commissioner; Daniel Fasig, chief of police; John Kennedy, chief of Fire Department; Martin Kercheval, sexton of cemetery; and Charles G. Klingner, market master.

The city directory for 1884 reported that "our beautiful city is enjoying a boom this year, and we hope our directory will be the means of giving strangers and others a fair idea of our business, manufacturing interests, etc. Our estimate of the population is, in round numbers, 31,000 and steadily increasing."

Terre Haute was probably the most organized city for its size in the entire country in 1884. There were 38 assorted societies, unions and clubs, 39 secret societies, and seven newspapers and magazines to report their various activities and functions.

Those who cared to drill and wear uniforms joined the four military organizations here. Those who cared to sing or play musical instruments joined the five musical societies. The Apollo Band and Orchestra, managed by Toute and McKennan, had offices at 322 Ohio. The Oratorio Society, organized July 23, 1877, met every Monday night in the Normal School building. W.W. Byers was president, and Anton Shide, musical director.

The Ringgold Band met at Dowling Hall. J. Breinig was the president and leader.

T.H. Maennerchor met at Turner Hall, on Ninth Street between Main and Ohio, every Tuesday and Friday evening. Otto Wittenberg was president, C. Bretting, secretary, and C.J. Kantman, director.

In 1884, postcards still cost a penny. Letters needed only a two-cent postage stamp. Terre Haute had 25 churches, three hospitals, including St. Anthony's, City Hospital on the southeast corner of Third and Scott streets, and the Friendly Inn on the northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut streets.

John G. Heinl, florist, operated Floral Hall and Green Houses at the corner of Eighth and Cherry streets. J.A. Foote was the Seed Merchant.

R. Dahlen was the proprietor of the Opera Music Store, 320 Main; James E. Somes was the druggist at the northeast corner of Sixth and Ohio. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral was a popular patent medicine of that time. Other popular products were Marseilles White Soap, "unequalled for washing flannels," and Acme Soap, "cut in full pound bars," and Austen's Forest Flowers Cologne was highly advertised.

Granite Iron Ware was "all the gossip." The colored advertising card showed three ladies taking a coffee break. Every item on the table, the coffee pot, cups, saucers and pudding pan, were all of the familiar gray speckled granite ware.

A dealer in wallpaper, etc., was Wm. Alder & Co. at 415 Ohio in the Union Block. J.N. Hickman at 304 Main sold White sewing machines. Other items of great popularity in those days were Clark's ONT (Our New Thread) Spool Cotton, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, Red Star Cough Cure and Hood's Sarsaparilla, "one hundred doses for a dollar."

In 1884, Terre Haute had one feather renovator, J. Hanley on North Fourth Street; one hoop manufacturer at the northwest corner of Water and Tyler streets; two horse collar manufacturers, Froeb Bros. at 19 S. Fifth St., and P. Miller at 505 Main St.

There was one maltster, Anton Mayer at the southeast corner Ninth and Poplar streets; one shooting gallery run by E.A. Decker at 118 Main; and one stair builder, A.R. Link at 1520 Chestnut St.

Food items might have been purchased from Foulkes & Morris, dealers in staple and fancy groceries at 417 Ohio. They carried the popular Alden fruit vinegar. Fine crackers were manufactured by Miller Bros. & Co.

In 1884, items of dress might have come from Owen, Pixley & Co. Boots and shoes had been sold since 1856 by Stein & Heckelsberg at 421 Main. Myers Bros. were leading clothiers for gents. Ladies fine shoes came from A.H. Boegman at 104 S. Fourth St. Greiner's shoe store manufactured all their ladies' fine shoes at 517 Main. They also sold men's seamless shoes for $3. John Paddock's Boot & Shoe Store at 407 Main and J.T.H. Miller, clothier and merchant tailor, at 522 Main, along with L. Goodman & Co., merchant tailors and clothiers, also were downtown stores outfitting Terre Hauteans and Wabash Valley shoppers a century ago.

1994

Squalid alley gained notoriety

17

~~A History (WH)~~ + A Clark Doro

TS JUL 03 1994

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

With all its years of unfavorable publicity, tragedy, unsanitary conditions and hilarity, Jockey Alley was one of the most talked about areas of early Terre Haute.

Described as an alley running north and south between First and Second streets and Wabash and Cherry streets, this notorious neighborhood got its name from horse trading. Mexican ponies, Texas mustangs and old nags were brought there for sale or trade.

Bargains were struck by grasping, tricky, drunken horse traders from all parts of the underworld in this small but well-known area in the west end's worst part.

In the early years, Jockey Alley consisted of a long row of half-decayed sheds, each with a small window, and a battered door leading into the alley. The roofs leaked, the floors were rotted away, the walls were so warped in many places a hand could be slipped through cracks between the weather-beaten boards.

These hovels were perfect examples of abject poverty, despair and helplessness. Miss Rhoda Welding, dedicated worker for the local Society for Organized Charity, realized more than most citizens of Terre Haute that this area needed to be dealt with. She began by finding better homes for the residents and asking the city to destroy the hovels.

Sarah "Aunt Sallie" Pierce (wife of Capt. James Pierce), who was born in 1851, once told a news reporter of her memories of this section of the city. Other facts were gathered from scrapbooks showing police efforts to keep crime under control in Jockey Alley.

In 1910, the oldest tenant of Jockey Alley was Hannah Porter, who had lived there 15 years. She was 70 at that time. She knew more of the tenants and former tenants than anyone else.

Hannah lived in a single room for which she paid $20 a year rent. Her aged husband lived at the extreme end of the row of hovels where he enjoyed comparative luxury. He drew a pension and was one of the best foragers of the alley.

Hannah never quarreled with her husband. She said they had nothing in common. She didn't get a penny of his pension although she could have demanded it. As the "Queen" of Jockey Alley, she was always the cleanest and among the best stocked.

The prevailing odor (or at least one of them) was the stench of boiling clothes that had been "washed" in rusty pans with foul-smelling soft soap made from lye and rancid grease.

The air reeked with the odor of scorched corn, sour food from garbage barrels behind the commission houses and the general filth that soaked into the soft, worn-out boards.

One tenant papered his room with square pages from a wallpaper sample book. This crazy-quilt effect was colorful and brightened his corner, so to speak.

In 1903, the Terre Haute Express printed a story about one of Jockey Alley's inmates. A 55-year-old woman, a rag-picker in the city, was living in one of the stables and had come down with smallpox.

There were six stalls in this stable, each being used as a home for one or more persons. The Board of Health wanted to burn the building, as it was impossible to fumigate effectively the filthy structure.

One city official was quoted as saying, "Jockey Alley has been an eyesore and a disgrace to the city for a number of years." At that time it was located between Walnut and Ohio streets, south of the jail, and was not really an alley as we think of one today.

An 1882 newspaper quoted Mary Farmer as saying that "Happy Alley" was between Swan and Oak streets. Does anyone have information about this location, and how it got its name?

The 1906 Terre Haute City Directory shows Hannah Porter as living in a house at the rear of 109 Cherry St. Her husband, James W. Porter, was also listed as residing in a house at the rear of the same address.

Another little-known location in 1906 was Pearly Street, which ran from Ohio Boulevard to Oak Street, between Water and First streets. At that time it had 16 residents, including the Terre Haute Sanitary Co.

Another popular location in 1906 was Riverside Park at the west end of the "new" $300,000 river bridge. According to an advertisement, the "Summer and Winter Garden for Ladies and Gentlemen, The Fairbanks of T.H., the Outside Inn, on the Banks of the Wabash" was a first-class cafe and bar where short orders were served day or night, and the lunch stand was always open.

Anything on the market was served at popular prices, and fresh river fish were a speciality. Riverside Park was "headquarters for boatmen, pearl hunters, shell men, fishermen and pleasure seekers ... our wharf is free to you, gasoline for sale by Charles Denning & Son, mgrs."

At nearby Fort Heyden, old photos show a roller-coaster, and other amusement rides were available for pleasure seekers. All sorts of small river boats from canoes to little house boats were rented by the hour in good weather.

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Edie Bird Breneman should have been credited for some of the information in the June 26 edition of this column.

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Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Clark Dorothy

Terre Haute settlers

City had few inhabitants when founded in 1816

TS JAN 26 1992

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

When Terre Haute was founded in 1816, it had very few inhabitants. The first sale of lots took place in October, and there were only a few log houses in which people could spend the winter.

The town was purely a real estate venture. There was nothing here to attract settlers. A few homes had been established in remote parts of the county — which then was not even our own county as Knox County held jurisdiction over all of it.

Sullivan County was cut off from Knox in 1817, and we were for a time part of Sullivan County, before Vigo County was created and Terre Haute became the county seat in 1818.

At this time, the population was farther south along Honey Creek or the prairies near there. By the spring of 1818, there were several settlers in and around Terre Haute, and a kind of town government was in existence. If any records were kept they were in Sullivan County, and their courthouse fire destroyed everything.

The Terre Haute town proprietors did send their agent to bid in some lots to be sold by the sheriff of Sullivan County for "borough" taxes for 1817, and only a corporate town could have levied taxes.

This is slim evidence, but it's all there is until 1832 when an act of the General Assembly chartered the Town of Terre Haute.

This act provided that the citizens should assemble at the courthouse to elect five trustees and a president, the body to be known as the "president and trustees of the town of Terre Haute."

The act was dated Jan. 26, 1832, and the first election was conducted at the courthouse in March. Chosen as trustees were James B. McCall, Thomas Houghton, James Ross, William Herrington and James Warren.

These trustees elected McCall, president; James T. Moffatt, clerk; Charles G. Taylor, assessor; Samuel Crawford, treasurer; and William Mars, constable and collector.

Population at that time was about 600 people, housed in about 70 or 80 homes, and a few taverns that were partly boarding houses for the single men of the community.

Who were these leaders of the borough of Terre Haute?

McCall was a prominent attorney, and one of the first directors of the First State Branch Bank of Indiana in Terre Haute. His wife, Julia, was one of the first members of the Presbyterian Church in Terre Haute.

Thomas Houghton was one of the stockholders of the Old Brick School at Fifth and Walnut. When the first fire company was organized in 1838, he was not only the fire warden for the Third Ward, but official keeper of our first fire engine, the old hand-drawn and hand-pumped box engine bought that year.

James Ross came here in 1824 with his brothers, Russell and Harry, and manufactured the first building bricks. Later they were merchants for many years on the west side of the public square.

Little is known of Warren and Herrington, but James T. Moffatt was born in 1791 and came to Terre Haute from Vincennes in 1829. A carriage maker by trade, he was better known as a city council member and as associate judge of Vigo County later.

He built a large house that stood where the one-time Training School, now Stalker Hall, stands on the Indiana State University campus. A member of the State Senate, postmaster, councilman and prominent Mason, he died in 1861.

Samuel Crawford, treasurer of the first organization, served under this charter and its successor. One-time president of the Terre Haute & Richmond Railroad, he was a director of the Branch Bank from its organization, and captain of the first fire engine company.

Crawford was one of the owners of the outlot that comprised the land between Wabash and Cherry, and Seventh half way to Sixth. His daughter, Ann, married William R. McKeen, and her son carried on his grandfather's name.

William Mar(r)s, the first blacksmith in town, had his shop at First and Poplar. He was the first town marshal and served in that capacity for many years. When the first market house was built between Ohio and Walnut on Market Street, known now as South Third, the Town Marshal was assigned to keep the peace during market house and putting it in order after the crowd left.

In addition, he had to collect the town revenue from licenses and taxes. He was one busy man! He also served as justice of the peace of the township.

Mars built one of the first frame houses in Terre Haute, and was owner of two shares in the Old Brick School.

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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Terre Haute a lively city in 1840

TS MAR 15 1992

Clark, Dorothy

Materials copied from original sources over many years show Terre Haute as it was in 1840.

On the north corner of the alley north of Wabash on the west side of Fifth Street stood a small frame church, the original home of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

After the building at the corner of Seventh and Eagle was finished, and occupied soon after the close of the Civil War, the former church was used as a theater by the Germans of the city.

When it was torn down, a larger brick building was erected and called The Adelphia. That building later became the stables of Hulman & Co., and still later an overall factory.

On the corner, north of the church, stood a large two-story brick house built by Harry Ross. It was better known later as the home of Lemuel Perdue who supplied housewives with ice before the days of electric refrigerators.

The wagons usually were driven in the summer by men who worked through the winter in the rolling mills, following the seasons year after year.

Diagonally across the streets was a tavern, a home for Teamsters and the movers on their way west. Nearly as much trade consisted of the latter who slept in the yard in their wagons and often needed nothing more than a place to feed their teams. In fair weather they cooked their own meals over an open fire in the yard.

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Known as Johnny Burton's place, at least one murder took place there, and, in time, it was closed. Later a new owner took over and remodeled the building and bettered its reputation.

It became the Filbeck Hotel that was demolished in 1894 to make way for the new Filbeck Hotel, which some of us can remember. It's gone now, of course.

The greater part of the half block south of Cherry Street on the east side of Fifth was occupied by a large three-story brick building that served as the spice mill and coffee-roasting plant of the firm founded by Francis Hulman.

Joined by his half-brother, Herman Hulman, after the dissolution of the firm of Ludowici & Hulman in Union Row, the new partnership moved across the street into the building that later housed the Savoy Theater.

Next it was moved a block further up Wabash on the north side, and in 1857 into the building at the northwest corner of Fifth and Wabash.

Francis Hulman and his family visited their old home in Europe in 1858, and on their return trip were lost at sea in the burning of the steamer, Austria, in September 1858.

After extensive remodeling in 1870 and again in 1880, the building was wrecked after the firm moved into their present location at Ninth and Wabash in 1893. The old site became the ill-fated Havens & Geddes Dry Goods Store and later burned to the ground.

One of the most "moved" houses in town was the fine brick house built by William C. Linton in 1837 in the middle of the block bounded by Ohio and Walnut, Fifth and Sixth streets.

The house stood facing Fifth, and was moved many years later, after the sale of much of the block, to face Ohio in the rear. It was moved again by Fred A. Ross who placed it barely off the sidewalk on Ohio Street.

It became the offices of the Maumee Collieries, and the interior was little changed after two removals and over a century of time.

St. Joseph's Church was built by the missionary priest, Stanislaus Buteux, in 1838. The original church was added to in the rear and later on the front and finally rebuilt so there was little trace of the original building.

Its first priest, Simon Petit Lalumiere, is buried beneath the building, but in the several changes in the structure, the exact location of his grave has been lost.

So well liked by not only his congregation but by the Protestants as well, the latter offered to build a belfry for his church if he would allow a town clock to be placed in it.

In one of the all too frequent tornadoes of early Terre Haute, the spire was blown into the street.

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*Clark, Dorothy

'Gems' give glimpse of local history

TS MAR 22 1992

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Doing research on local history is a complicated task. One keeps running into bits of history not seen before, not related to anything in the present hopper, and so it's better to have a potpourri of snippets than to risk losing these little gems.

Here goes:

- The land located on the southwest corner of Fourth and Mulberry streets was designated in 1816 by the Terre Haute Town Company for a seminary. Scarcely any use was made of this grant for school purposes until 1857 when James Hook built what was known as "The City School."

It was a 10-room, two-story house, with a very high basement, "in bitter opposition to the mayor, backed by many prominent citizens."

For a number of years the basement was used for a town hall. In its time, this was by far the largest district school in the city, and the most popular.

The building was torn down and a new one erected during the summer of 1878. The cornerstone was laid Aug. 17, 1879, and contained the contents of the box from the old demolished 1857 building.

- At the 1875 Old Settlers' Association meeting, T.C. Buntin was said to have spent his entire life on the Wabash River. He told of the settlement at Vincennes, the massacre of his relatives on the west side of the river, the narrow escape of his mother (when a child of 7), her rescue by a Frenchman in his canoe, and how her sister had married Col. Francis Vigo for whom Vigo County was named. Buntin's mother married Capt. Robert Buntin, his father.

- Census information found in the files of the Gazette and Tribune began in 1826 when the city had 500 people, eight stores and two inns. In 1829 there were 579 people; the next year 600 people; and by 1833, 900 people.

In 1850, the population was at 3,572. The 1858 city directory says: "There are between ten and eleven thousand inhabitants."

There has been, however, no accurate census taken for some years since. The population shown by the general census of the United States in 1850 was 4,051; in 1854 it was 7,000.

From 1850 to 1910, Terre Haute showed the highest rate of increase during the past decade — 5,816. Evansville was lowest with 18 percent.

In 1860 figures showed 8,594; in 1870, 16,103; in 1876, 19,265; in 1880, 26,042.

By 1890, population stood at 30,217; 10 years later, 1900, 36,673; by 1910, 58,157; by 1920, 84,000; and by 1930, 62,810.

- Located at the corner of 13th Street and Fifth Avenue was Providence Hospital, founded by the Sisters of Providence in a building donated by Chauncey Rose. This hopsital was in use in 1874.

About 1882, Dr. L.J. Willien, a well-known surgeon in the Wabash Valley, helped organize the St. Frances Sanitarium. The Sisters of St. Francis took charge of the first sanitarium, a two-story brick house at the corner of Second and Mulberry.

On May 12, 1882, Herman Hulman purchased the property known as St. Agnes' Hall and presented it to the nuns as a tribute to the memory of his wife. It was remodeled and enlarged and called St. Anthony's Hospital.

In 1892, Dr. Benjamin F. Swafford and Dr. Leo J. Weinstein started a private sanitarium. Later, Drs. S.J. Young, Charles Gerstmeyer, W.E. Bell, L.R. Crapo and W.C. Eichelberger were associated with them, and the sanitarium was operated as an institution by the physicians until 1895.

Incorporated as the Union Home for Invalids in 1895, the name was changed in 1906 to Union Hospital.

The North End Furnishing Society of the Union Hospital was organized in 1901. The group furnished the dining room in 1902. Previously, the group furnished the women's charity ward.

- Nancy Hanks was the horse that made a new record of below 2:04 on the day H. Hulman & Co. conducted the opening of their new grocery wholesale establishment here.

Hulman paid the fares for patrons from all parts of Indiana and Illinois and had 3,000 guests at a banquet at the Terre Haute House.

When did Terre Haute open the race track trotting races to the world?

In August 1894, real races were run with equine contestants from leading stables all over the United States, with added prestige of six days of trotting races open to the world. Prizes totalling $92,000 were offered, the largest purses of that time.

U.R. Jeffers was known as the father of the Terre Haute Race Track. He gave years of his personal attention to the forming of the race track bed and to keeping it in prime condition.

In 1887, Terre Haute's mile track was opened where Indiana State University's football stadium now stands. A square race track with rounded corners, in its gala days it was called the fastest horse track in the world.

Axtell, the great 3-year-old trotter, made a mile in 2:12 on this track, beating his own 3-year-old record and that of any age stallion record in the world on Oct. 8, 1889. He made the mile without a break from start to finish.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

*Clark, Dorothy

A different look

City's downtown quite different in yesteryear

TS MAR 29 1992

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Downtown Terre Haute in earlier days is difficult to imagine now.

At the northeast corner of Sixth and Wabash was the Buntin & Armstrong drugstore. In the upper floor was the first telephone exchange, with a penthouse on the roof to which led the wires from all over town.

From a limit of 100 subscribers, which was all that could be accommodated by the switchboard, after nearly 70 years there was a capacity of about 20,000 lines to supply the demand.

Over the drugstore were rooms for bachelors. These were in great demand. The rooms, not the bachelors!

Next door, at 602 Main, was Henry Robinson & Co., dealers in "Yankee Notions." On circus days a large red wagon was seen at the grounds, then east of 15th Street and south of Wabash. On a shelf at the back stood a dealer with a great assortment of goods, seldom priced above a dollar, that served as an outlet for the spare cash the country folks brought to town.

At 608 Main was Austen's Hardware; at 610, the Adams Express Co.; and at 614 a frame building held a paint shop, pump shop, Padgett's pattern shop and a restaurant.

John H. O'Boyle was at 618 with his leather store, and Frisbie's saloon came next at 620. Barker & Alvey sold wholesale liquors at the 626. The notion store of H.A. Slaughter was at 628.

D.W. Watson, the gas fitter, was at 630, and probably the last of those having an entrance to the basement from the sidewalk.

At 642 Main, later a retail store for Viquesney & Co., was Val Dickout's trunk shop. Next east at 644, E.H. Bindley dealt in wholesale drugs. At 646, Rudolph Gagg sold artists' supplies, and J.H. Fremont had a cigar store at 652. The rest of the block to Seventh Street was vacant, and the Republicans used to build their "wigwam" where Ben Butler spoke to immense crowds in one political campaign.

On the southeast corner of Seventh and Wabash was a building erected some 10 years before by Dr. John J. Baur, first of the name here, and in which he and his sons after him ran a drugstore. This business was terminated only by the purchase of the Terre Haute Trust Co. for their new building, the present Merchants Bank property.

In the east half of this was the wholesale liquor store of James B. Lyne. All east of here was vacant, and held frequent spectacles such as the "Fall of Pompeii" and minor exhibits of sorts.

On the north side of Seventh stood the old Terre Haute House, and in the store rooms beyond the lobby were Leo Sirronia's barber shop and the bar-room.

The rest of the block housed the mule barns of the Street Railway which in those days left Wabash for the Union Depot by Eighth Street.

On the morning of April 1, the Morning Express carried the gruesome tale of a catastrophe in which the old artesian well of the hotel had burst forth and flooded the space with the overflow and the dead mules floating in the water. The dangerous condition of the hotel basement and the danger of crumbling walls were outlined.

Readers of the headline story failed to note the date line of All Fool's Day!

East of Eighth Street there were very few business houses of importance for several blocks. Nor for another decade would it be built up closely.

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

City grew eastward in 1800s

Ts MAR 06 1994

23

* Clark, Dorothy

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

More than a century ago, Terre Haute's growing expansion eastward on Wabash Avenue was becoming more and more apparent. Concentrated for so many years around the courthouse square, the growing town moved ever so slowly eastward on Wabash.

One of the last old-time flour mills that flourished in the city was Wright L. Kidder & Son at 1000 Wabash. Railroad freight cars loaded with grain coming in or flour going out were transferred from one track to another by a movable section of track supported on rails. The car was pushed on to this and moved over to put the car in line with another track. This operation was located on the west side of the mill.

At 1012 Wabash was William H. Baker, a dealer of flour and feed. James H. Eason, a driver for the Terre Haute Street Car Co., resided in the apartment upstairs. The next building east was occupied by Charles Woelfle, a boot and shoemaker. Eden Cullen, a commission merchant. lived at 1016 Wabash. Next door was Henry Apmann, another shoemaker.

G. Seth Williams had his drugstore at 1022 Wabash. William McWilliams had a boot and shoe business at 1024 Wabash. At 1100 Wabash, Francis J. Rupp operated a meat market, while upstairs was Debs Hall. Next door was the wine and liquor store run by Daniel Debs, father of Eugene V. Debs.

Mrs. E.G. Houriet, a jeweler and watchmaker, had her business place at 1104 Wabash. It was from her husband that Mr. Condit bought the property on Mulberry Street that became the Condit home for so many years and is now part of the Indiana State University campus.

William H. Bridenthal, a miller occupied the building at 1106 Wabash. Mrs. M.A. Kurhirdt, a widow, lived next door. The residence of William M. Ruffner, a carpenter, was at 1110 Wabash.

Next door east was the saloon and bakery of Stephen Meyer. At 1116 Wabash was the residence of Charles H. Little, a partner in the firm of Fenner & Little. A saloon operated by David Getty was at 1120 Wabash.

A picture framer, William Rehmann, lived at 1122 Wabash. At 1124 Wabash was the home of George O. Thomas, laborer, and next door was the livery, sale barn and boarding stable of James N. Shepherd. J. Walter Kelchner, a boot and shoemaker, occupied the place east.

At 1136 Wabash was the furniture and upholstery shop of John Miller and James W. Haley. George Fisher's Saloon was next door. Mrs. Anna Heinig, widow of Frederick Heinig, operated a grocery in the same building her husband had operated a bakery and confectionery.

Next door to John E. Schnell's Bakery at 1206 Wabash was the home of Isaac A. Hughes, a mechanic in the Vandalia shops. At 1212 Wabash was the home of Jon Long, a stone cutter. Charles D. Flaid, superintendent of the Hawkeye Detective Agency, was next door. George W. Spoonhoff, a laborer for C.C. Smith, lived next door.

The Arcel Bros., Soloman W. Arcel and David Arcel, had their retail confectionery business at 1220 Wabash. At 1222 Wabash was the business of Mart McKinely, a second-hand goods dealer. Samuel Archie, laborer, lived next door.

The home of Robert Lienberger was at 1232 Wabash. He was a laborer at the Van shops, as was George H. Becker at 1236 Wabash. S.D. Jenness & Co., a dry goods and clothing store, was at 1238 Wabash.

The meat market at 1242 Wabash was run by Charles P. Bruce. In his basement he had a large treadmill powered by a large Newfoundland dog and a robust billy goat. They would run the treadmill and furnish power for sausage-grinding machines and machines filling sausage casings. Their reward included choice bits of meat, as they treadled along and kept the machines operating by the hour.

The only factory east of the E.&T.H. Freight House was the old woolen mill, built in 1867 by the Kennedys. In 1889 it still held some of the original machinery which had been inactive for several years. Next door east of the mill was the oldest building east of the railroad. In the 1850 census, it was known as the National Road Hotel, a small hotel operated by Charles Seaman.

Saloon-keeper Lawrence Kretz had his business and residence at 1009 Wabash. Since David H. Proctor operated a boarding house at 1013 Wabash, the old hotel may have occupied two lots. The Shelburn Coal Co. was next door at 1023 Wabash; the home of Lewis Anderson, plasterer, was at 1025 Wabash. This was the one-story brick building in which Debs is said to have organized his first union in 1875.

At 1101 Wabash, Adam Schumaker had a butcher shop. Henry Wilson lived next door at 1103 Wabash, and George A. Taylor occupied 1105 Wabash as a shoe store for many years.

Elliott W. Turner operated a bakery and confectionery at 1107 Wabash and lived upstairs, as did Charles H. Woodruff who lived above his grocery at 1109 Wabash. John W. Funk owned the barber shop at 1111 Wabash.

Joseph F. Rauch at 1115 Wabash ran a saloon and lived upstairs. Christopher Leibing was a shoemaeker at 1117 Wabash and taught music on the side. At 1119 Wabash Franz C. Heckelsberg was a cigar maker. Mrs. M.J. Smith lived at 1123 Wabash, and Joseph E. Sartor and Rich H. Taylor ran a saloon at 1127 Wabash.

One of the founders of Levin Bros., Meyer Levin, was at 1129 Wabash. Michael Larkin had a grocery at 1131, while William Miller had a restaurant at 1135 Wabash. Albert Seifer had a saloon at 1137 Wabash; Otto Blei ran a barber shop at 1141 Wabash; and Pat Hickey had a store on the corner at 1143 Wabash, with the usual saloon in the rear.

At 1201 Wabash was the drugstore of James E. Somes; at 1207 Wabash, Valentine Burgert had a grocery. Peter Mank made cigars at 1215 Wabash, Samuel F. Flaid had his veterinary office at 1217 Wabash.

Dr. Leslie McClain had his office and home at 1221 Wabash. At 1223 Wabash, Ferdinand Breitfelder had a shoemaking business and a home, while Cyrus P. Stevenson had a restaurant at 1225 Wabash.

A traveler, C.C. Shepard, lived at 1229 Wabash, and Fred P. Hauck had his barber shop at 1231 Wabash. Charles F. Tencer moved at 1233 Wabash from a block farther west where he also made boots and shoes and taught music, as did his daughter who taught piano.

Another shoemaker, William W. Hare, had his shop at 1235 Wabash; a Chinese laundry run by Pong You, was at 1239 Wabash.

Albert Neukom had his drug store at 1241 Wabash. Doing a fair business as a druggist, Neukom sold out and went to the Klondike. Like many thousands of others, he had to borrow money to get back home, he was fond of telling in later years.

Thus it was on East Wabash from 10th to 13th streets in 1889, more than a century ago, a forerunner of the Greater East Side Merchants.

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